

RETURN OF THE FRIENDLY SKIES

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Furloughed air traffic controllers will soon be heading back to work, ending a week of coast-to-coast flight delays that left thousands of travelers frustrated and furious. Unable to ignore the travelers' anger, Congress overwhelmingly approved legislation Friday to allow the Federal Aviation Administration to withdraw the furloughs. The vote underscored a

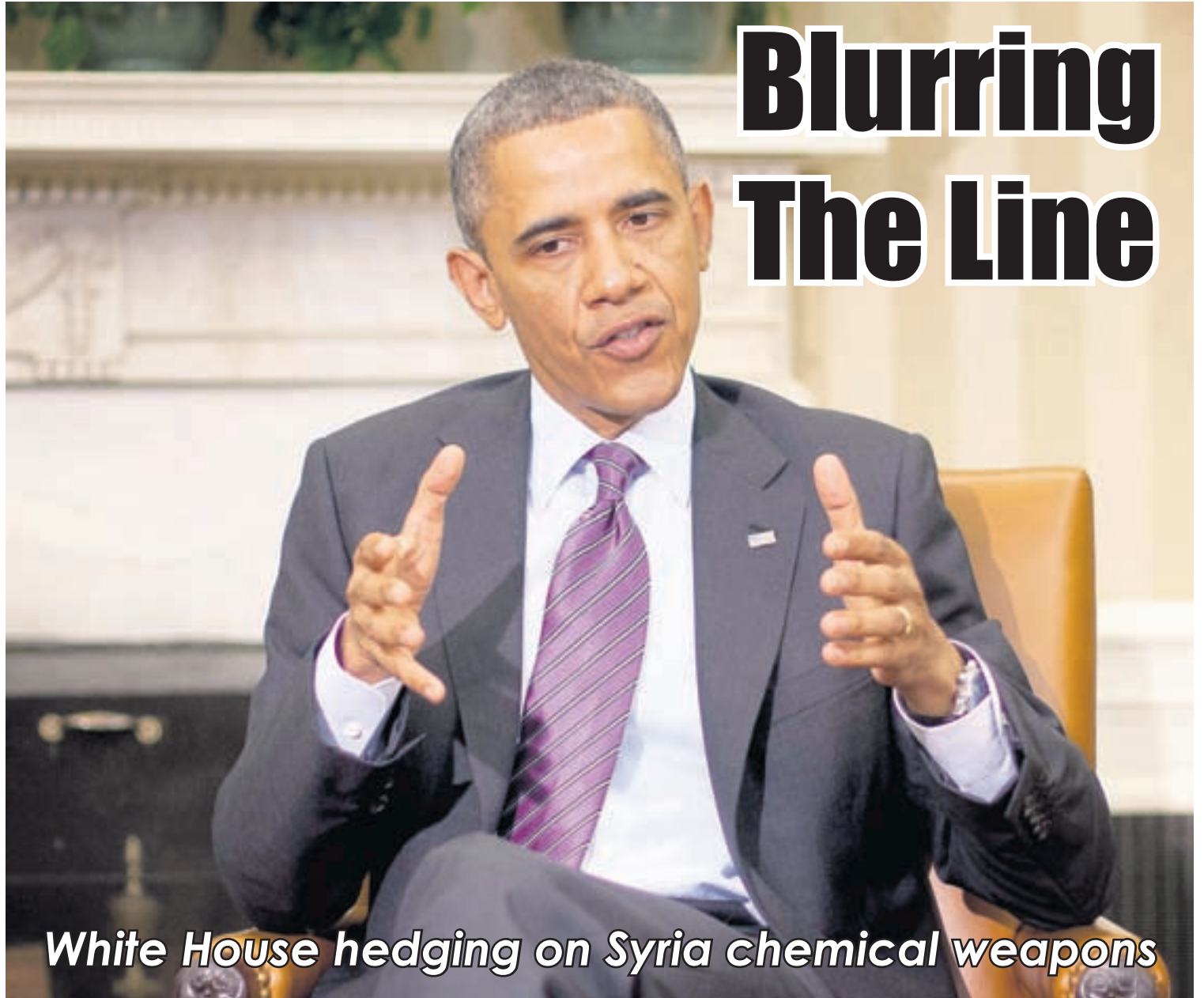


The control tower stands in the background as a passenger lays on the pavement outside the international terminal at Hartsfield-Jackson airport, Friday, April 26, 2013, in Atlanta.

(AP Photo/David Goldman)

shift by Democrats who had insisted on erasing all of this year's \$85 billion in across-the-board budget cuts, not just the most publicly painful ones, for fear of losing leverage to restore money for Head Start and other programs with less lobbying clout and popular support. With President Barack Obama's promised signature, the measure will erase one of the most stinging and publicly visible consequences of the budget-wide cuts known as the sequester.

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President Barack Obama answers a question on the ongoing conflict in Syria, during their his meeting with Jordan's King Abdullah in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington, Friday, April 26, 2013.

(AP Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais)

**DONNA CASSATA
JULIE PACE**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Proceeding cautiously, President Barack Obama insisted on Friday that any use of chemical weapons by Syria would change his "calculus" about U.S. military involvement in the 2-year-old civil war — but said too little was known about a pair of likely sarin attacks to order aggressive action now. The president's public response to the latest intelligence reflected the lack of agreement in Washington over whether to use America's military to intervene in the civil war, — and if so, how. But lawmakers in both

parties expressed concern that inaction could embolden Syrian President Bashar Assad and perhaps other countries including North Korea and Iran.

U.S. officials declared on Thursday that the Syrian government probably had used chemical weapons twice in March, newly provocative acts in the civil war that has killed more than 70,000 people and displaced hundreds of thousands more. The U.S. assessment followed similar conclusions from Britain, France, Israel and Qatar — key allies eager for a more aggressive response to Syrian conflict.

Obama, in his first com-

ments about the new intelligence disclosure, said Friday, "For the Syrian government to utilize chemical weapons on its people crosses a line that will change my calculus and how the United States approaches these issues." He has issued similar warnings for months, saying the use of chemical weapons or transfer of the stockpiles to terrorists would cross a "red line" and carry "enormous consequences."

Seeking to show resolve, Obama added Friday that "I've meant what I said." The president is facing political pressure from a familiar contingent of senators, led by Republican John Mc-

Cain, favoring a quick and strong U.S. response. But even those lawmakers appear opposed to an American military invasion and are instead supporting creation of a protective "no-fly zone" or another narrow, safe zone inside Syria, along its border with Turkey. McCain lost the 2008 election to Obama.

Some lawmakers voiced concern that if Obama doesn't make good on his promise to respond aggressively if it's shown that Assad used chemical weapons, his inaction could send a damaging message to the world.

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US, Japan military chiefs vow defense cooperation

TOKYO (AP) — The military chiefs of Japan and the United States on Friday reaffirmed their commitment to cooperate closely on defense measures in order to deal with threats of missile and nuclear tests from North Korea.

Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the U.S. joint chiefs of staff, met with Japan's top defense officials as he wrapped up a weeklong trip in Asia that also took him to South Korea and China.

At the outset of his meeting with Dempsey, Japanese Defense Minister Itsunori Onodera voiced concern over North Korea's repeated threats, which have prompted the U.S. to deploy an anti-ballistic missile battery to Guam and Japan to set up land-based missile interceptors around Tokyo.

"There is tension now in Japan, particularly on the North Korean issue," Onodera said.

"There were repeated nuclear and missile tests, and this time there were also threatening statements on a missile launch."

Dempsey's trip came after weeks of rising hostility that saw North Korea unleashing threats of war on the U.S. and South Korea over U.N. sanctions meant to

penalize Pyongyang over a nuclear test in February. Pyongyang has recently eased its rhetoric and expressed some tentative signs of interest in dialogue, though its demands, including the dismantling of all U.S. nuclear weapons, go far beyond what its adversaries will accept.

Later, at a joint news conference with Japan's joint staff chief, Gen. Shigeru Iwasaki, Dempsey pledged Washington's commitment to the U.S.-Japan security pact, under which the U.S. stations nearly 50,000 troops in Japan and is obligated to defend Japanese territory. □



Gen. Martin Dempsey, right, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, shakes hands with his Japanese counterpart Gen. Shigeru Iwasaki, chief of the Japanese Self Defense Forces Joint Staff, prior to their meeting at Defense Ministry in Tokyo Friday, April 26, 2013.

(AP Photo/Itsuo Inouye)

Russians detain 140 suspected Islamic militants

MOSCOW (AP) — Russian police and security agents detained 140 people at a mosque in Moscow on Friday on suspicion of involvement with Islamic extremism.

A statement from the Federal Security Agency reported by Russian news agencies said among those detained were 30 citizens of unspecified foreign countries. The detentions come a week after the two suspects in the fatal Boston Marathon bombings were identified as Russian-born ethnic Chechens who sympathized with Islamic extremists.

There were no immediate reports of charges being filed. The security agency referred The Associated Press to a district office, where the telephone was not answered.

The reports cited the agency as saying the mosque previously has been visited by people who had been involved in preparing or carrying out terrorist attacks. A Chechen separatist insurgency that began in the 1990s increasingly took on a fundamentalist Muslim character and spread to neighboring Russian Caucasus regions, including Dagestan, where Boston bombing suspects Tamerlan and Dzhokhar Tsarnaev and their family lived for a period before emigrating to the United States in 2002 or 2003.

The Tsarnaevs' parents later returned to Dagestan, and Tamerlan, who was killed in a shootout with police last week, made a long visit in 2012. Investigators are trying to find out details of what he did on the six-month sojourn, especially whether he met with any extremists.

Caucasus extremists have carried out gruesome attacks on civilians in Russia, including the 2004 seizure of a school in the town of Beslan that ended in the deaths of 330 people, about half of them children. They also claimed responsibility for the 2011 bombing of Russia's busiest airport, killing 36 people. □

Serbian lawmakers vote to support Kosovo deal

JOVANA GEC
Associated Press

BELGRADE, Serbia (AP) — Serbian lawmakers on Friday overwhelmingly supported an agreement normalizing relations with breakaway Kosovo, a potentially landmark deal that could end years of tensions between the Balkan antagonists and put them both on a path to European Union membership. Parliament backed the deal in a 173-24 vote. The agreement drew support from the parties of the ruling, nationalist-led government and the center-left opposition. A pro-Russian, nationalist party was the only group that voted against it.

Parliamentary backing is a boost for the Serbian government, which reached the agreement with Kosovo this month in Brussels, but has faced pressure from nationalists and Serb hardliners in Kosovo's divided

north, who rejected it.

"This is not just a simple vote about the agreement," Prime Minister Ivica Dacic told lawmakers at the end of the daylong, heated debate.

"This vote shows what we stand for and which way we want to go."

Serbia has rejected Kosovo's 2008 declaration of independence — which has been recognized by more than 90 countries including the U.S. and 22 of the EU's 27 members — but it must improve ties with the former province to advance its bid to join the EU.

"The agreement with Pristina has sent a strong message across the whole of Europe about Serbia's European attitude," EU Enlargement Commissioner Stefan Fule said earlier Friday during a visit to Belgrade. "Serbia moved beyond past conflicts and closer to the future within Europe."

The deal will give Kosovo's

ethnic Albanian leadership authority over rebel Kosovo Serbs, ending Serbia's control in northern Kosovo. The Serbs, in return, will be granted wide-ranging autonomy.

Nationalists have insisted that this amounted to treason.

Slobodan Samardzic, a lawmaker from nationalist Serbian Democratic Party, said during the parliamentary debate that "the agreement means our people must give up their state." Several hundred extremists rallied outside parliament amid a heavy police presence.

Dacic rejected the accusations, insisting that "we did not betray our country, we were defending it."

"We made the move," he said. "Did you think it was easy?"

Earlier, Dacic also told lawmakers that Serbia would become "Europe's North Korea" if it rejected the

deal.

Serbia's warmongering policies during the 1990s turned the country into an international pariah, facing U.N. sanctions and isolation. Years of wars and crisis also severely impoverished the country's economy.

After the Kosovo agreement, the European Commission recommended opening membership negotiations with Belgrade, an important step on the EU path that Serbia hopes will pave the way for foreign investment and unblock access to the bloc's pre-entry funds.

Serbia relinquished control of most of Kosovo in 1999 when NATO chased its troops out of the region in a three-month bombing campaign. The EU has insisted on ending the partition of Kosovo between the Albanian majority and the Serb-controlled north — about a fifth of the country. □

White House hedging on Syria chemical weapons

Continued from front

"There's no question that when the United States takes a position that this crosses a line that our failure to respond has implications," said Rep. David Cicilline, a Democratic member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. "So that if we, in fact, determine that chemical weapons were used, I think the expectation is that we and the coalition and others take some action."

Rep. John Mica, a Republican, wondered whether the red line was "turning into a pink line."

White House officials insisted Obama's caution was not an indication that the line was shifting. Officials said firm evidence of a chemical weapons attack would trigger a U.S. response — unspecified — and would not be contingent on the size and scope of the use.

Obama met at the White House with Jordan's King Abdullah II, whose nation is suffering amid an influx of refugees spilling over its border with Syria. The president promised to vigorously pursue more information about chemical weapons attacks, including exactly who might be responsible and how they might have been carried out.

But the president set no deadline for answers.

"The president wants the facts," spokesman Jay Carney said. "And I'm not going to set a timeline because the facts need to be what drives this investigation, not a deadline."

Syrian officials denied Friday that their government forces had used chemical weapons against rebels.

Hanging over the Obama administration's approach to the new intelligence reports are hard lessons learned from the Iraq war, when faulty intelligence drew the U.S. into a lengthy and expensive conflict. Obama, as a candidate for U.S. Senate, opposed the Iraq war and made ending the conflict a priority in his first term.

Lawmakers appeared to be drawing on similar les-

sons from more than a decade ago. Many who sounded the alarm about Saddam Hussein and the possibility of weapons of mass destruction — and strongly stood with President George W. Bush's decision to invade Iraq — were far more muted on Friday.

Following a closed-door briefing by Secretary of State John Kerry, they stressed the importance of building international support for any military move against Syria rather than unilateral U.S. action. The sectarian strife in Iraq and the lawlessness in Libya after the killing of longtime leader Moammar Gadhafi in 2011 stand as sober reminders of what can happen.

"We want to do everything we can to avoid putting boots on the ground," said Rep. Dutch Ruppersberger, the top Democrat on the House intelligence committee. "I don't think that we, just as the United States, want to go in to another war."

Polling shows war-weary Americans are broadly op-



White House press secretary Jay Carney briefs reporters at the White House in Washington, Friday, April 26, 2013. Carney began the briefing by answering a question regarding the conflict in Syria. (AP Photo/Charles Dharapak)

posed to the notion of the U.S. military intervening in Syria. Just one in five said the U.S. has a responsibility to do something about the fighting in Syria, according to a CBS News poll conducted in late March.

But faced with more specific scenarios, Americans appear more willing to back U.S. involvement.

In an ABC News/Washington Post poll late last

year, 63 percent said they would support military intervention if the Syrian government used chemical weapons against its people.

Roughly the same number said they would support using American military aircraft to create a no-fly zone if no ground troops were involved.

The White House faces a limited choice of military

options to help the rebels oust Assad.

Arming the rebels would run into the reality that a military group fighting alongside them has pledged allegiance to al-Qaida. Establishing a no-fly zone poses a significant challenge, as Syria possesses an air defense system far more robust than the U.S. and its allies overwhelmed in Libya two years ago. □

NYPD:

Part of 9/11 plane's landing gear found



This Friday, April 26, 2013, photo shows a piece of landing gear that authorities believe belongs to one of the airliners that crashed into the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001, that was found wedged between a mosque and another building, in New York.

(AP Photo/NYPD)

NEW YORK (AP) — A 5-foot (1.5 meter)-tall piece of landing gear believed to be from one of the planes destroyed in the Sept. 11 attacks has been discovered wedged between a mosque site and another building near the World Trade Center. The part includes a clearly visible Boeing identification number, New York Police Department spokesman Paul Browne said Friday. The twisted, rusted metal part has cables and levers on it and is about 3 feet (0.9 meters) wide and 1.5 feet (0.5 meters) deep. The piece of equipment was discovered Wednesday by surveyors inspecting the lower Manhattan site of a planned Islamic community center, at 51 Park Place, on behalf of the building's owner, police said. □

Controllers to return; flight delays sway Congress

Continued from front

Friday's House approval was 361-41 and followed the previous evening's passage by the Senate, which didn't even bother with a roll call. Lawmakers then streamed toward the exits — and airports — for a weeklong spring recess. White House spokesman Jay Carney said Obama would sign the bill, but Carney complained that the measure left the rest of the sequester intact. "This is a Band-Aid solution. It does not solve the bigger problem," he said. Using the same Band-Aid comparison, Rep. Rick Larsen, D-Wash., said that "the sequester needs triple bypass surgery."

The FAA and Transportation Department did not respond to repeated questions about when the controllers' furloughs would end.

Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, who helped craft the measure, was told by Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood Friday that the agency is "doing everything they can to get things back on track as quickly as possible," said Collins spokesman Kevin Kelley.

In the week since the furloughs began, news accounts have prominently featured nightmarish tales of delayed flights and stranded air passengers. Republicans have used the situation to accuse



A passenger sits at right in the international terminal at Hartsfield-Jackson airport, Friday, April 26, 2013, in Atlanta. Congress easily approved legislation Friday ending furloughs of air traffic controllers that have delayed hundreds of flights daily, infuriating travelers and causing political headaches for lawmakers.

(AP Photo/David Goldman)

the Obama administration of purposely forcing the

controllers to take unpaid days off to dial up public pressure on Congress to roll back the sequester.

"The president has an obligation to implement these cuts in a way that respects the American people, rather than using them for political leverage," House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, said in a written statement.

"Unfortunately for this administration, the term 'sequester' has become synonymous with fear," Rep. Richard Hudson, R-N.C., said during the debate. Halting the furloughs was the latest example of lawmakers easing parts of the sequester that became too painful.

They previously used a separate, wide-ranging spending bill to provide more money for meat and poultry inspectors. Attorney General Eric Holder cited extra funds in that same bill as the reason the Justice Department would be able to avoid furloughs. Transportation Security Administration employees also have gotten relief.

The Obama administration and congressional Democrats — backed by many fiscal experts — say the sequester law gives agencies little maneuverability, requiring them to spread cuts evenly among most budget accounts. The Federal Aviation Administra-

tion was achieving about a third of its required \$637 million in cuts by furloughing nearly all its workers — including the 15,000 air traffic controllers — one day every two weeks.

Obama and his Democratic allies want to roll back the entire sequester, with the White House proposing a substitute mix of spending cuts and tax increases that Republicans have rejected.

The GOP has proposed replacing the across-the-board spending cuts with others, many of them aimed at programs Democrats defend.

That has left many Democrats reluctant to ease across-the-board cuts for individual programs that cause a public outcry because they worry that would relieve pressure on Republicans to undo the entire sequester.

"While there is a little bit of leverage and pressure, let's broaden it to the sequester as a whole," Rep. Tim Walz, D-Minn., told reporters before voting against the bill. Said House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif.: "How can we sit there and say, 'Four million Meals on Wheels for seniors gone? But that's not important. Over 70,000 children off Head Start. But that's not important.' What is important is for Republicans to hold a hard line" on budget cuts. □

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Ex-French president top gift giver to Obama family

MATTHEW LEE

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former French President Nicolas Sarkozy and his super-model wife Carla Bruni were clearly taken with President Barack Obama and his family back in 2011. The Sarkozys gave the Obamas more than \$41,000 worth of presents that year, becoming the most prolific foreign gift-givers to the first family, documents released Friday show. The gifts ranged from designer golf and travel bags and fine crystal to soaps and perfumes, according to the State Department's Office of Protocol, which catalogues gifts to U.S. officials from foreign leaders and publishes an annual accounting, often one or two years late due to processing.

Among the goodies presented to the Obamas by the Sarkozys were a large black Hermes golf accessory bag worth \$7,750, two Baccarat crystal table lamps on silver pedestals worth \$5,500, two Baccarat crystal statuettes depicting golfers, a monogrammed black leather Louis Vuitton business bag, his-and-hers Christian Dior bathrobes and a black leather Dior clutch. Sarkozy also gave Obama a glass sculpture of Alexander the Great's horse, a Lacoste shirt, a fountain pen and, perhaps in a nod to his tobacco-using days, a Ligne 8 lighter. But don't expect the Obamas to furnish a post-White House residence with the items, because under law, most non-perishable gifts to the president and other U.S. officials must be



President Barack Obama listens as then-French President Nicolas Sarkozy speaks in the East Room of the White House in Washington. New documents show that Sarkozy and his wife Carla Bruni showered President Barack Obama and his family with more than \$41,000 worth of gifts in 2011. (AP Photo/Susan Walsh)

GM wants tough punishment in hybrid technology secrets theft

ED WHITE

Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) — General Motors Co. wants a long prison sentence next week for a former employee and her husband who were convicted of stealing hybrid vehicle technology for potential use by competitors in China. Trade secrets were found on at least seven computers owned by ex-GM engineer Shanshan Du and Yu Qin, according to prosecutors. The government doesn't believe the information made it to China, although Qin had claimed to have made contact with GM competitors overseas. "There is a clear and well-recognized need for the United States government, including its courts, to take aggressive steps to deter others from stealing the type of vital technology at issue in this matter," said John Calabrese, GM vice president for global vehicle engineering. Du and Qin face eight to 10 years in prison under sentencing guidelines, and

Calabrese asked U.S. District Judge Marianne Battani in a letter this week to "impose the maximum allowable sentence." But Battani has flexibility when the suburban Detroit couple returns to court Tuesday. Du, 54, was convicted Nov. 30 of conspiracy and possessing trade secrets without approval. Her 52-year-old husband was found guilty of the same crimes, along with fraud and obstruction of justice. The government accused Du of seeking a transfer within GM to get access to hybrid technology and said she began copying documents by the end of 2003. She copied thousands of documents in 2005, five days after getting a severance offer from the automaker, according to the indictment. By that summer, Qin was telling people he had a deal to provide hybrid technology to a GM competitor in China and had set up his own company, Millennium Technology International, the government said. □

to the National Archives or General Services Administration unless the recipient reimburses the Treasury for their estimated value. The Sarkozys largesse may have been a function of France hosting the Group of Eight summit in 2011, at which the world financial

crisis was a main topic of conversation, but most other leaders' gifts to the Obamas were more modest. Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper, for example, gave the president an autographed Toronto Raptors basketball, while

Australian Prime Minister presented him with a green and white iPod shuffle and Australian football jerseys. One exception was a variety of artwork worth \$13,200 that was given to Obama by the governor of the Mexican state of Oaxaca. □



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New York suspends enrollment in long-term care plan



New York State Medicaid Fraud Control Unit investigators, right and left, speak with Warren Chan, owner of the Asian Senior Day Care Corp., who had complained that competitors were improperly enlisting clients with cash incentives, in New York, April 25, 2013. Social adult day care centers indirectly funded by Medicaid have been accused of luring seniors with cash, takeout food and casino visits.

(Michael Nagle/The New York Times)



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NINA BERNSTEIN

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State officials have suspended enrollment in New York's largest managed long-term care plan for frail elderly and disabled people, and investigators have begun examining the relationships between such plans, which are financed by Medicaid, and the social adult day care centers that send them new customers.

The suspension of new enrollment at VNS Choice, as well as other plans operated by the Visiting Nurse Service of New York, signals the state's new scrutiny of the managed care companies and the centers under contract to them.

Thursday, investigators from the Medicaid fraud control unit of the state attorney general's office were in Brooklyn gathering evidence that some centers had persuaded seniors to sign up with incentives like free takeout food, casino visits and cash before steering them to managed care companies eager to enroll them in plans designed for older people with long-term needs like home health care and nursing.

Jason Helgeson, the state's Medicaid chief, said late Thursday that separately the office of the Medicaid inspector general was also beginning an investigation of the centers, which have multiplied in recent years with little oversight.

The New York Times published an article Monday night detailing complaints about several centers, including the R&G Social Adult Day in Bensonhurst. Tuesday, Helgeson held a conference call with the 20 managed care programs in the city, demanding to know how many enrollees came from social adult day care referrals in the last six months and warning that it would review the eligibility of those enrollees for the program. The plans put the number at 3,318 people.

VNS Choice, the largest plan, with 20,000 enrollees, reported paying \$642,875 for social day care to R&G

alone, and acknowledged receiving 100 referrals from the center, where a reporter had observed a stream of agile elderly people collecting free takeout food and walking away with it, or riding off on bicycles.

VNS originally told the state it had found 92 of the 100 referrals eligible for enrollment, but later revised that figure, saying only 39 referrals were enrolled. Two other plans, WellCare and CenterLight, also had contracts with R&G, and had spent \$90,000 and \$67,000 respectively, state officials said.

"We are going to recoup every penny from any plan that is deemed ineligible," Helgeson vowed in an interview late Thursday. "We will expand the scope of our investigation if we find that there were problems." He also defended the overall design of the program, which has rapidly transferred tens of thousands of people from a fee-for-service system to managed care, in an attempt to save money and reduce nursing home use.

People are eligible to enroll if they need at least 120 days of help a year with tasks like walking, cooking or taking medication. Under Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo's sweeping redesign of Medicaid, managed care companies, not government agencies, are mainly responsible for determining eligibility.

Plans get roughly \$3,800 a month for each person they enroll, out of which they pay for long-term care services from a network of providers, from social day care and home health aides to nursing home care. A session of social day care – including at least four hours of supervision, a meal and a snack – costs the plans roughly \$65 to \$95.

No managed care plan has more contracts with new social day care centers than the Visiting Nurse Service of New York. The suspension of enrollment does not affect people who are already members of its plans. □

Coastal areas damaged by Sandy worry: will tourists come?

JOSEPH BERGER

© 2013 New York Times

NEW YORK – The sea gulls still wheel indolently over Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn, on the lookout for food to scavenge from restaurants, shops and fishing boats. The scene is timeless, but this spring the streets below have less to offer.

Six months after Hurricane Sandy swamped the New York City coastline, Emmons Avenue, the tourist stretch on the northern side of the cigar-shaped bay, has still not returned to its normal bustle, with many restaurants and businesses still shuttered. That dispirited atmosphere is mirrored along the commercial strips of Coney Island, Red Hook, the Rockaways and the city's other waterfront communities.

In neighborhood after neighborhood, it is harder to find a quart of milk or a slice of pizza, and harder to complete essential services like filling a prescription or cashing a check. Many stores are rushing to

hoods of economic life and humming vitality.

"Mambo Sushi, gone! Tzar, gone! Fusion, gone!" Theresa Scavo, the district manager of Community Board 15, said as she reeled off the names of destroyed restaurants on a single block of Emmons Avenue, where only a Greek restaurant, Yiasou, managed to reopen.

A block farther along the bay, a few restaurants and cafes where water reached the ceilings were also shuttered. In total, 14 businesses on Emmons Avenue are still closed, Scavo said, with a dozen more closed elsewhere in the neighborhood. With warm weather approaching, there is concern that tourists will not flock to the bay as they usually do.

"Everybody suffers, because if people are not coming to eat at your restaurant, they won't shop at my clothing store," Scavo said.

In Arverne and other Rockaways neighborhoods in



Peter Katsichtis, center, owner of Yiasou, which was shuttered by Hurricane Sandy but has since reopened, with customers at the restaurant in the Sheepshead Bay area of the Brooklyn borough of New York, April 18, 2013.

(Hiroko Masuike/The New York Times)

ing public Red Hook Houses, Fine Fare, is still closed, forcing residents to make

do with a smaller market or walk a half-mile to a Fairway, which reopened in

March.

Many business owners said they had struggled to reopen because their losses were not covered by flood insurance and getting timely government assistance to make repairs was difficult.

Marine Spares International and Tamco Mechanical, two allied businesses in Red Hook that repair ship boilers and pumps, had to replace much of their heavy precision machinery and are only at 60 percent of usual production, said Jim Tampakis, an owner. He tried to fill out applications for government help but abandoned the effort.

"I became discouraged," he said. "There was a feeling that businesses were getting the runaround." □



The original Nathan's Famous restaurant, which remains closed after Hurricane Sandy, on Coney Island in the Brooklyn borough of New York. With many restaurants and businesses still shuttered after Hurricane Sandy, places like Sheepshead Bay, Coney Island, Red Hook and the Rockaways worry about the upcoming tourist season.

(Hiroko Masuike/The New York Times)

reopen before the busy summer season, but others – lacking the money to pay for repairs or entangled in the bureaucracy of recovery programs – have decided to remain closed for good, departures that have sapped neighbor-

Queens, many grocery stores are still closed and residents have resorted to shopping at bodegas, where the prices tend to be higher. Among the stricken businesses in Red Hook, Brooklyn, the main supermarket for the sprawl-

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Famed UK publicist charged with indecent assault

C. VINOGRAD
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Prominent celebrity publicist Max Clifford has been charged with 11 counts of indecent assault, British officials said Friday. The 70-year-old public relations guru, the second person to be charged as part of a broad investigation into child sex abuse spurred by the scandal involving the late BBC personality Jimmy Savile, professed his innocence, saying there was “absolutely no truth and substance” to the allegations. Prosecutors said the charges against Clifford relate to assaults allegedly committed between 1966 and 1985. The charges involve seven female complainants who were between the ages of 14 and 19 at the times of the alleged assaults, they added in a statement. Clifford, considered an affable and sage “go to” guy for celebrities embroiled in public relations fiascos, was arrested in December 2012. He said Friday he’s been in a “24/7



Publicist Max Clifford speaks to the media outside his home in Hersham south eastern England, after he was charged with 11 historic counts of indecent assault against teenage girls, Friday April 26, 2013.

(AP Photo/PA, Steve Parsons)

nightmare” since then and vowed to clear his name. “The allegations in respect of which I have been charged are completely false — very upsetting, very distressing, but completely false,” he told reporters outside of his home. “I have never indecently as-

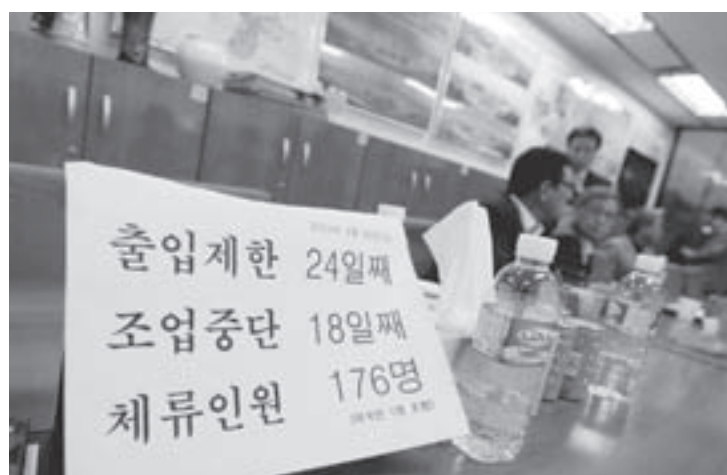
saulted anyone in my life, and this will become clear during the course of the proceedings.”

Clifford will appear at a London court on May 28. Former BBC chauffeur David Smith, 55, is the only other person so far to be charged as a result of Operation Yewtree, an investigation launched after revelations that Savile may have targeted hundreds of young victims over five decades. Savile died in 2011 at age 84.

About a dozen people have been arrested as part of the Yewtree probe, including veteran entertainer Rolf Harris and former pop star Gary Glitter. Clifford long has been a fixture on British televi-

sion news programs and in newspapers, which frequently seek his thoughts on how celebrities can come up with novel marketing strategies to maximize their appeal — and how celebrities dealing with marital breakdowns, drug problems, legal issues or fading popularity can rebound. His clients have included entertainment mogul Simon Cowell, former Harrods owner Mohamed al-Fayed, and the late reality TV star Jade Goody. He also has represented dozens of ordinary people who found themselves at the vortex of the news and who sought to sell their stories to the press, which is a common, and lucrative, practice in Britain. □

Seoul to withdraw workers at factory in North Korea



South Korean members of the Corporate Association of Kaesong Industrial Complex (CAKIC) talk each other after the government's announcement at its office in Seoul, South Korea, Friday, April 26, 2013. Seoul said Friday that it has decided to withdraw the roughly 175 South Koreans still at a jointly run factory complex in North Korea, raising a major question about the survival of the last symbol of inter-Korean cooperation. The letters read “Access Limit 24days, Stop Working 18 days, Staying people 176.”

(AP Photo/Lee Jin-man)

SAM KIM
Associated Press
SEOUL, South Korea (AP) —

Seoul said Friday that it has decided to withdraw the roughly 175 South Koreans still at a jointly run factory complex in North Korea, raising a major question about the survival of the last symbol of inter-Korean cooperation.

The statement by the country’s minister in charge of inter-Korean relations came

after North Korea rejected Seoul’s demand for talks on the factory park that has been closed nearly a month. Seoul said it issued a Friday deadline for North Korea to respond to its call for talks because it was worried about its workers not having access to food and medicine. North Korea hasn’t allowed supplies or workers to cross the border since early this month.

“We’ve made the inevita-

ble decision to bring back all the remaining personnel in Kaesong for the protection of our people as their difficulties continue to grow,” Unification Minister Ryoo Kihl-jae said in a televised statement. He didn’t take questions from reporters.

Ryoo urged North Korea to protect the property of South Korean companies at Kaesong and ensure the safety of South Korean managers when they return home. He didn’t say when the withdrawal would take place.

Pyongyang’s powerful National Defense Commission earlier said Seoul’s demand for working-level talks was deceptive and that ongoing U.S.-South Korean military drills and the spreading of anti-North Korea leaflets at the border were proof of Seoul’s insincerity.

“This is a war of pride between the Koreans, but they are conducting it while leaving some room for talks,” Lee Hochul, a political science professor at Incheon National University in South Korea, said, adding neither side is mentioning a permanent shutdown of the industrial complex. □



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Syrian officials vehemently deny chemical weapons use

ALBERT AJI

Associated Press

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) — Two Syrian officials denied Friday that government forces had used chemical weapons against rebels, the first response from

official said Assad's military "did not and will not use chemical weapons even if it had them." Instead, he accused opposition forces of using them in a March attack on the village of Khan al-Assal outside of

has no need for chemical weapons.

Syria's official policy is not to confirm nor deny it has chemical weapons.

Shehadeh called the U.S. claims "lies" and likened them to false accusations that Iraq possessed weapons of mass destruction — a claim U.S. policymakers had used to justify the invasion of that country in 2003. "What is being designed for Syria now is similar to what happened in Iraq when Colin Powell lied in the Security Council and said Iraq possesses weapons of mass destruction prior to the U.S. invasion and occupation of that country," he said.

President Barack Obama has said that the use of chemical weapons would

be a "red line" that could result in a significant military response. But the administration said on Thursday that the new revelation won't immediately change its stance on intervention.

Following the Khan al-Assal attack, the government called for the United Nations to investigate alleged chemical weapons use by rebels. Syria, however, has still not allowed a team of experts into the country because it wants the investigation limited to the single Khan al-Assal incident while U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon is urging the Syrian government to accept an expanded U.N. probe into alleged chemical weapons use.

"They want this team to

be similar to the inspection teams in Iraq that destroyed the country after it became clear that it was all a great lie," Information Minister Omran al-Zoubi said in comments published on Syria's state-run news agency SANA.

On the streets of Damascus, the conflict dragged on Friday. Government troops pushed into two northern neighborhoods, triggering heavy fighting with rebels as they tried to advance under air and artillery support, activists said. The drive was the latest in a days-long offensive by government forces in and around the capital, an apparent bid to secure Assad's main stronghold against rebel challenges. □



A wounded Syrian man holding his injured son after an air raid on the northwestern town of Saraqeb in the province of Idlib, Syria. Two Syrian officials denied Friday, April 26, 2013 that government forces had used chemical weapons against rebels, Damascus' first response to U.S. assertions that it had.

(AP Photo/ENN)

President Bashar Assad's regime to U.S. assertions that it had deployed such weapons during the 2-year-old civil war.

On Thursday, the White House and other top Obama administration officials said that U.S. intelligence had concluded with "varying degrees of confidence" that the Syrian government has twice used chemical weapons in its battle against rebels trying to oust Assad.

In the Syrian capital of Damascus, a government of-

the northern city of Aleppo, the largest in Syria. The official said the Syrian army had no need to use chemical weapons because it can reach any area in Syria it wants without them.

He spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to give official statements.

His comments were echoed by Sharif Shehadeh, a Syrian lawmaker, who said the Syrian army "can win the war with traditional weapons" and



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Baby food shortage in Europe due to China demand

KIRSTEN GRIESHABER
Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — Yong-Hee Kim still can't believe that in a prosperous country like Germany, powdered baby formula would ever be rationed and that she would have to scour shops in the German capital to find the right brand for her 13-month-old son. But that's what has happened since major retailers in Germany this year began limiting sales of leading brands of baby formula. Parents in Britain, the Netherlands and Hong Kong have faced similar restrictions. The reason for the sudden shortage is a quirk of globalization — one that illustrates the complexities of supply and demand in a wired world. Parents thousands of miles

away in China have been using the Internet or tapping friends and relatives in Europe to buy up stocks of high quality European-produced formula — often paying much higher prices than they would here. Chinese demand for foreign brands soared after drought in Australia and New Zealand cut supplies from China's major sources of imported baby formula. Chinese parents who have enough money have largely shunned local brands since a contaminated milk scandal in 2008 left six babies dead and another 300,000 sick. With Chinese consumers turning to sources abroad, major retail outlets in Germany, Britain, the Netherlands and Hong Kong have limited sales of sev-

eral leading brands of baby formula. In Europe, parents have been stockpiling the milk powder at

more. So my husband and I are checking out all those stores, running from A to B, to make sure we can get

Prenzlauer Berg neighborhood. "We even end up paying two, three or four euros more for a box," she sighed. "It's really annoying." In Germany, the run on powdered milk started in February, according to dm, a major chain of drug stores, which are the main retail outlets for baby food in this country. Sales clerks at stores in major tourist venues, including international airports and Berlin's Friedrichstrasse train station, noticed Chinese travelers piling shopping carts to the brim with boxes of one popular brand, Aptamil. "We noticed that due to extremely high demand we weren't able to provide enough Aptamil baby food," said Christoph Werner, a spokesman for dm. "So we decided to limit the amount of Aptamil products temporarily." □



A sign limiting the purchase of baby milk formula powder hangs on the shelf in a supermarket in London.

(AP Photo/Kirsty Wigglesworth)

home, further intensifying the shortage. "They don't sell more than three boxes of formula per store any-

the right baby milk powder for our son," Kim said as she watched her son at a playground in Berlin's leafy

Court rejects Pussy Riot member's release

ROMAS DABRUKAS
Associated Press

ZUBOVA POLYANA, Russia (AP) — A Russian court on Friday rejected a plea for early release from prison by a member of the feminist punk band Pussy Riot, whose provocative songs and prosecution have made them a symbol of the country's opposition movement. Nadezhda Tolokonnikova, who has been in custody since her arrest last March, is serving a two-year sentence handed down after the band staged an irreverent protest against President Vladimir Putin in Moscow's main cathedral. Judge Lidiya Yakovleva said evidence showed that Tolokonnikova did not deserve early release because she had "not always followed the rules of behavior" while in custody. Tolokonnikova's attorney

Irina Khrunova was quoted by the Interfax news agency as saying she would appeal on the grounds that the judge did not allow final statements by the defense team. Tolokonnikova and two other band members were sentenced to prison terms on charges of hooliganism motivated by religious hatred. She sought early release after serving half her sentence, a provision allowed by law. Another of the convicted band members, Yekaterina Samutsevich, had her sentence suspended on appeal last year. Tolokonnikova, dressed in a Soviet-style dark prison uniform with a white scarf around her neck, told the court that the prison colony where she is serving her sentence did not support her plea of early release because she "didn't

repent." Russian law does not make repentance a condition for an early release. In its deposition, the prison colony described Tolokonnikova as "insensitive to ethics and conscience and thinking only about herself." The prison colony also listed a penalty that Tolokonnikova received for failing to say hello to a prison official while she was in the hospital and noted that she was once reprimanded for her refusal to go out for a walk while she was held in a Moscow jail. Defense lawyers urged the court to release Tolokonnikova so that she can take care of her 5-year-old daughter. Attorney Dmitry Dinze also complained that prison officials seem unable to provide proper conditions to treat her persistent headaches. □



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38 die in mental hospital fire outside Moscow

JIM HEINTZ

Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — The patients of the small psychiatric hospital in a Russian village were asleep or under sedation as the clock neared 2 a.m. The windows were barred and the nearest firefighters were miles away, with some impeded by rough roads and others not able to cross a nearby canal. When a blaze broke out and spread through the wooden rafters, all of this made for a prescription for tragedy: 38 people died and only three escaped.

The one-story brick-and-wood hospital building that caught fire long before dawn Friday housed patients with severe mental disorders, Health Ministry officials said. The fire started in a wooden annex, emergency authorities said, and then spread to the 1950s main brick building, which had wooden beams.

Health Minister Veronika Skvortsova said half of the patients took sedatives at night. She insisted the patients weren't tied to their beds and were not given any medication that would leave them unconscious and unable to escape.

At least 29 of the dead were burned alive, federal Investigative Committee spokeswoman Irina Gummennaya said.

Fire trucks took about an hour to reach the scene, coming from a town 50 kilometers (30 miles) away and struggling over roads in poor condition.

Firefighters from a slightly nearer town also were dispatched, but found that a ferry crossing a canal near the hospital was out of service because of high wa-

ter.

Investigators said the 38 dead included 36 patients and two doctors. They said a nurse managed to escape and save one pa-

naya told Russian news agencies that most of the people died in their beds. Moscow region Governor Andrei Vorobyev said some of the hospital win-

looking at violations of fire regulations and a short circuit as possible causes for the blaze that engulfed the hospital in the Ramensky settlement, about 85 kilometers (50 miles) north of Moscow. Vorobyev told Russian state television that the fire alarm seems to have worked, but the fire spread too quickly.

Skvortsova told state TV the hospital had all the necessary fire equipment, but conceded mental hospitals should be better equipped for emergencies than the current law requires.

President Vladimir Putin called for a thorough investigation into the deadly fire and asked regional authorities to pay more attention to safety regulations.

Russia has a poor fire safety record, with about 12,000 deaths reported in 2012. By comparison, the U.S., with a population double Russia's, recorded around 3,000 fire deaths in 2011.

A 2006 fire at a drug treatment facility with barred windows and locked doors in Moscow killed 45. In one of the most high-profile cases of negligence, more than 150 people died in a nightclub in the city of Perm after a pyrotechnic show ignited a wooden ceiling.



Ministry for Emergency Situations workers and fire fighters work at the site of a fire at a psychiatric hospital Friday morning, April 26, 2013. (AP Photo/Pavel Sergeyev)

tient, while another patient got out on his own. The Emergencies Ministry also posted a list of the patients indicating they ranged in age from 20 to 76. Gumen-

naya cited the surviving nurse as saying that the doors inside the hospital weren't locked. Investigators said they are

Dutch cyberattack suspect arrested in Spain

MIKE CORDER

Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — A Dutch citizen has been arrested in Spain in connection with what experts described as the biggest cyberattack in the history of the Internet, one launched against an anti-spam watchdog group last month, prosecutors announced Friday.

The Netherlands National Prosecution Office said a 35-year-old suspect it identified only by his initials, S.K., was arrested Thursday at his home in Barcelona. Authorities also seized computers and mobile phones. Dutch prosecutors do not release full names of suspects, in line with privacy laws. According to a prosecution statement, the man is suspected of "unprecedentedly serious attacks on the non-profit organization Spamhaus." He was held on a European arrest warrant and is expected to be extradited to the Netherlands to face justice.

The so-called denial-of-ser-

vice attack on Spamhaus fired a torrent of data at the organization's servers and was blamed for other disruptions online. Dutch banks and an electronic payment service also have been hit by similar attacks in recent weeks, but prosecutors say they do not believe they are linked to the Spamhaus incident.

Spamhaus, a site responsible for keeping ads for counterfeit Viagra and bogus weight-loss pills out of the world's inboxes, said it apparently was targeted by groups angry at being blacklisted by the Swiss-British group. Prosecutors said the cyberattack also hit "partners" of Spamhaus

in the United States, the Netherlands and Britain. At the time, Vincent Hanna, a researcher with Spamhaus, called it a "small miracle" the organization had remained online during the cyber onslaught.

Denial-of-service attacks overwhelm a server with traffic — like hundreds of letters being jammed through a mail slot at the same time. Security experts measure those attacks in bits of data per second. Recent cyberattacks — such as the ones that caused persistent outages at U.S. banking sites late last year — have tended to peak at 100 billion bits per second. But the assault on Spam-

haus shattered the charts, clocking in at 300 billion bits per second, according to San Francisco-based CloudFlare Inc., which Spamhaus enlisted to help it weather the attack.

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St. Lucia police detail rescue in boat sinking

DANICA COTO
Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)

— A boat captain and his first mate swam through dangerous waters for nearly a day before they were rescued after a sinking that was also survived by their two U.S. passengers, authorities in St. Lucia said on Friday. Marine Police Sgt. Finley Leonce told The Associated Press that the captain and first mate were rescued on Monday around noon by a private boat owner who was helping with the search. The two men are employees of a local company called "Reel Irie", which owns the 31-foot (9-meter) boat that sank on Sunday off the north coast of St. Lucia while on a fishing trip. Also aboard the boat were Dan Suski, a 30-year-old business owner and information technology expert from San Francisco, and his sister, Kate Suski, a 39-year-old architect from Seattle. Leonce said authorities picked up the Suskis on Monday near Dauphin Beach on the island's northeast coast. The Suskis told the AP that they swam for nearly 14 hours, reached shore, and then hiked for about three hours the next day until they found a farm worker who called police for help. All four of the survivors, who had been wearing life jackets, were hospitalized and treated for dehydration and various injuries. An unidentified man who answered the phone at the "Reel Irie" company on Friday declined to comment. He only said that captain Griffith Frederick and mate Tim Cooper are doing well and that they are not providing interviews. The boat's make and model were not available. Leonce said police did not have those details. Leonce said the local weather service had issued a small craft advisory the day the boat sank, meaning that all small boats should remain close to shore. □

In Caribbean, gridlocked courts stalling lives

DAVID McFADDEN

Associated Press

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP)

— Claudette Johnson still has a hard time sleeping at night a decade after her son was fatally shot in a confrontation with Jamaican police and 15 years after her taxi driver husband was murdered by gunmen.



Claudette Johnson shows a photo of her slain son Tyrone Johnson, who was 21 when he was killed, as she poses for a photo at the market in West Kingston, Jamaica.

(AP Photo/David McFadden)

Year after year, both cases have collected dust in the island's gridlocked court system, leaving her in limbo. Meanwhile, she's grimly tracked the men she believes are responsible for the killings of her loved ones, even as witnesses have vanished and memories have grown murky. "Lord, it hurts. You can wait forever for justice here," Johnson said in an outdoor Kingston market where she scrapes out a living selling secondhand clothing from a sunbaked wooden stall. Johnson's exasperation with the sluggish pace of Caribbean justice reflects what many say is a regional crisis. While the Caribbean is known to most visitors as a vacation paradise, with its palm trees and white sand beaches, the backlog in overburdened courts has soared as crime statistics show homicide rates nearly doubling in several countries since 1995. At the same time, underfunded

and inefficient courts have failed to keep up with the punishing caseloads, stalling lives and even acting as a disincentive for foreign investment. In some countries, thousands of defendants have languished in decrepit lockups for years without trial. Perhaps nowhere is the

social costs.

The conviction rate for murders is just 5 percent in Jamaica. As a result, islanders believe killers routinely go unpunished in a country with among the world's highest murder rates, and deadly vigilante justice against people suspected in crimes is a fairly regular

And in 2009, at the height of drug battles in Mexico's Ciudad Juarez, 2,600 people were slain but only 19 convicted of homicide. It's common in many countries for people to spend years in prison without being tried.

The delays have even hit justice systems in relatively wealthy Caribbean nations such as the Bahamas and Barbados. Experts say postponements are often granted by judges for the flimsiest of reasons and there's no shortage of defense lawyers who benefit. Officials complain that a culture of delays has become chronic in courtrooms. Even impaneling juries can be a challenge in Jamaica, where many people will feign illness to avoid jury duty and the paltry daily subsistence allowances that come with it. Complicating matters further, a large number of randomly-selected jurors never even get their summons to appear in the first place. The Jamaican police unit responsible for serving the notices say they only have one car, resulting in a low percentage of potential jurors ever getting summons.

Officials in Jamaica and Trinidad & Tobago are trying to speed up justice by pushing for legislative amendments to eliminate preliminary inquiries, which determine if the state has enough evidence to justify a trial, and reduce the number of matters that require trial by jury, a hallmark of British common law and the basis for many islands' justice systems.

"Reduction of backlog is a main priority of the government and the courts," said Carol Palmer, permanent secretary of Jamaica's Justice Ministry.

For Johnson, government pledges to improve the system ring hollow. Like many other impoverished Jamaicans, she's convinced that the system is rigged against her.

"In this country," she said, holding a photo of her slain 21-year-old son, "justice is never for the poor." □

problem more marked than in Jamaica, which is struggling to whittle down a crushing number of old criminal cases. With even basic statistical data on the flow of cases lacking, most officials have long put the court backlog at over 400,000 on the island of 2.7 million people, although some justice officials now say the number is closer to 200,000. Whatever the full tally, authorities uniformly agree that the sprawling backlog is a big problem, with opposition leader and former Prime Minister Andrew Holness likening it to a "cancer in the core of the nation."

The consequences of the inefficiency are dire. In its 2013 International Narcotics Control Strategy Report, the U.S. State Department said Jamaica's sluggish criminal justice system contributes to "impunity for many of the worst criminal offenders and gangs, an abnormally high rate of violent crimes" and other

occurrence.

In countries such as Haiti and the Dominican Republic, prisons are filled with inmates who have not been convicted of a crime, often waiting years for their trials to start or be dismissed.

In Haiti, dismal facilities have no toilets or proper plumbing and holding pens are so crowded that many inmates take turns sleeping at night because of a lack of space. In the national penitentiary in downtown Port-au-Prince, the percentage of the roughly 3,700 inmates in pretrial detention is about 90 percent, according to Josh Pazour, an attorney who works for a U.S.-funded program that seeks to improve Haiti's justice system.

The Caribbean's woes are emblematic of problems across the Americas. The overwhelming majority of murders in countries such as Brazil, Venezuela and Honduras go unpunished.



VisitAruba.com Video Contest winner starts his Aruba adventure!



composed. At time of writing this release, his video had garnered over 190,000 views!

To see David's winning entry, visit <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Er3IRSfdYec>. David decided to get a preview of Aruba before his actual prize vacation started and arrived in Aruba ahead of time, on April 22nd, and spent a few days exploring on his own before checking into the Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino, on April 25th. You can follow updates of David's Aruba trip on the VisitAruba Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/VisitAruba!>

PALM BEACH - The winner of the 2012 VisitAruba.com video contest has arrived in Aruba and is very excited to begin his total Aruba experience!

Between August and October of 2012 VisitAruba.com held an online video contest with the theme "What would YOU do to get to Aruba?".

The first prize that David Kohlmeier from Austria has won is a vacation for two including airfare credit of US\$1,000 offered by VisitAruba.com, a 6-night stay at Renaissance Aruba Beach Resort & Casino, a 1-week Car Rental offered by Budget Car Rental, dinners at Simply Fish, Las Ramblas, El Gaucho, Matthew's, Papillon and the Blue Lobster, and enough activities to fill the vacation such as a De Palm Sightseeing Tour, Pelican Adventures Sail and Snorkel Cruise, Horseback Riding Tour from Rancho La Ponderosa and a Kayak Tour offered by Aruba Kayak Adventures.

Thanks to all the participating sponsors David Kohlmeier from Austria has re-

ceived his Gift Certificates for tons of stuff to do in Aruba. It's no wonder that upon receiving the gifts David exclaimed "This is the biggest prize I have ever won!".

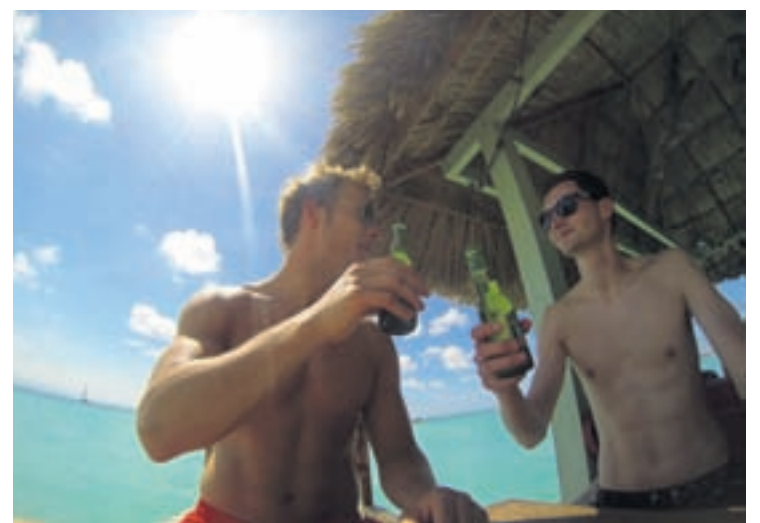
David has come to Aruba armed with two Go-Pro cameras and other photographic equipment and we are sure he will be documenting every minute of his super vacation to further expose Aruba to the as-yet-untapped Austrian market!

In fact, most of David's circle of 800 or so Facebook friends have never even heard of Aruba, so it is a great opportunity for them to learn about the island, and what it is about, and get extremely tempted to visit!

David told us "My friends didn't know where Aruba was, until this contest. At least now +/- 800 of my friends know where the island is located." One of David's childhood friends, Achim Passath, was lucky enough to be asked to join the trip, and he too had never heard of the destination before.



David is an avid videographer, enjoying a strong following on YouTube with around 10,000 subscribers. Upon seeing his video and looking Aruba up, many commented that Aruba is a beautiful place that they were not previously aware of and would like to visit someday too. David's video was well produced and acted out, with some original and noir bits to it as well, but all tongue-in-cheek and creatively



Aruba say's "Masha Danki" to a group of Loyal Guests!

EAGLE BEACH - Recently Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring several very loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba for vacationing on our island for so many years consecutively! The honorees are: Vincent and Susan Longa-

bricco, residents of Sebastian, Florida were honored as Goodwill Ambassadors for visiting 24 years in a row! Jerald and Alison Waters, residents of Bridgewater, Vermont were honored as Distinguished Visitors for visiting 14 years in a row! The honorees are members

of Paradise Beach Villas and have been enjoying the island every year. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 years and 20-or-more years consecutive.



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Beauty On The Beach

Anna Maria Carusone

She is from Casurta, a town close to Napoli, in Italy. It is her first time in Aruba and she is on her honeymoon.

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Aruba Bank celebrates the Coronation of King Willem-Alexander

- Introducing Royal Rates: Attractive Interest rates on cars, personal loans and mortgages

ORANJESTAD, Aruba – 24 di april 2013: As the entire Dutch kingdom celebrates Coronation Weekend, Aruba Bank joins the festivities with a two-week Royal Rates campaign, consisting of attractive Interest rates on cars, personal loans and mortgages. The island of Aruba has always enjoyed a special relationship with the royal Dutch family and has always expressed a special fondness towards Her Majesty Queen Beatrix, during her 33 years at the kingdom's helm. Following her January abdication, the Dutch Kingdom will be experiencing a transition, as His Majesty Prince Willem Alexander assumes duties as the monarch. Aruba Bank, joins the festivities with a super-special offer which was announced

during a press conference in a fully decorated room, festooned with the royal portrait, serving orange cups cakes, under orange balloons and ribbons. In honor of the historic occasion a phenomenal offer was introduced for the purchase of cars, and on personal loans and mortgages. The Royal Rates campaign will no doubt impress those who are looking at a personal loan in order to consolidate their finances, or those who are considering the acquisition of a new car. Making your dream come true by means of a real estate purchase or home construction with a convenient mortgage, is now more lucrative than ever, with payments deferred to August 2013. Aruba Bank is also prepared to lend you a financial hand, just ahead of the Summer vacation and ahead of the start of a new scholastic year.



Aruba Bank's Royal Rates campaign is valid from April 25th to May 10th, 2013. You may apply for Royal Rates at any of the Aruba Bank branches during working hours from 8am to 4pm, and at the Customer Service Center

at Superfood Plaza, from 9am to 5pm, daily. On Saturday, you may apply for Royal Rates at the Camacuri Branch and at the Customer Service Center at Superfood Plaza from 9am to 1pm. You may also apply via Aruba Bank's

website, at www.aruba-bank.com Aruba Bank offers Royal Rates to the community as a celebratory gesture, welcoming King Willem-Alexander and thanking Queen Beatrix for her many selfless years of service. □

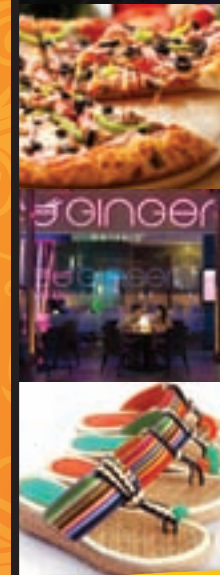
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NL Capsules



Chicago Cubs' Luis Valbuena celebrates as he crosses home plate after hitting the tie-breaking solo home run during the ninth inning of a baseball game against the Miami Marlins, Thursday, April 25, 2013, in Miami. The Cubs won 4-3.

Associated Press

Valbuena's HR lifts Cubs to a 4-3 win

The Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — Luis Valbuena hit a tie-breaking solo home run in the ninth inning to lift the Chicago Cubs to a 4-3 win over the Miami Marlins on Thursday night.

The Marlins fell to 5-17, matching the worst start in franchise history through 22 games according to STATS. Miami had the same record in 1995.

Shawn Camp (1-1) pitched the eighth and Carlos Marmol got the final three outs for his second save in four opportunities.

Nate Schierholtz doubled and homered for Chicago, which scored the final three runs of the game.

Valbuena put the first pitch he saw from Steve Cishek (1-3) into the Marlins bullpen in right-center field with two outs in the ninth breaking a 3-all tie.

Continued on Page 21

NEW BERTH



Rangers claim playoff spot by beating Canes 4-3

New York Rangers' Ryan McDonagh is checked into the bench as Carolina Hurricanes' Patrick Dwyer (39) reacts during the first period of an NHL hockey game in Raleigh, N.C., Thursday, April 25, 2013.

Associated Press
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Boston Red Sox's David Ortiz, right, watches his solo home run in front of Houston Astros' Jason Castro in the third inning of a baseball game in Boston, Thursday, April 25, 2013.

Associated Press

AL Capsules

Hot-hitting Ortiz leads Red Sox over Astros 7-2

The Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — David Ortiz went 3 for 4 with a home run and two RBIs, boosting his batting average over .500 as the Boston Red Sox beat the Houston Astros 7-2 Thursday night to win their eighth straight series opener.

Ortiz, who also scored three runs, is 11 for 20 (.550) with five RBIs since returning last weekend. He missed 71 of last year's final 72 games and most of the first three weeks this season because of a heel injury.

Boston has won 10 of its last 13 and taken the first eight series openers of a season for the first time in team his-

tory.

Clay Buchholz (5-0) allowed two runs and six hits in 7 2-3 innings with 10 strikeouts and two walks. His ERA rose from 0.90 to 1.19.

YANKEES 5, BLUE JAYS 3

NEW YORK (AP) — With Derek Jeter making his first visit to the Bronx this season, Robinson Cano hit a three-run homer and New York used a flurry of early long balls to outslug Toronto.

Vernon Wells homered again against Mark Buehrle, and Francisco Cervelli also connected for New York in its third win over the Blue Jays in a week. The Yankees took two of three in a weekend series in Toronto.

Jeter, out until probably mid-July because of a broken ankle, watched a no-frills New York lineup improve to 12-9. The Yankees captain said he was meeting some of his teammates for the first time.

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Nick Tepesch pitched six strong innings for his second win, and Elvis Andrus and Nelson Cruz each drove in runs to lead Texas to its sixth victory in seven games.

Tepesch (2-1) allowed five hits in 6 2-3 innings. He shut the Twins out through six before Josh Willingham homered in the seventh inning to make it 2-1. The rookie right-hander had allowed only two baserunners up to that point and showed no lingering effects from taking a liner off his right forearm in his previous start against Seattle last weekend.

Minnesota starter Vance Worley (0-3) allowed two runs and six hits in five innings.

WHITE SOX 5, RAYS 2

CHICAGO (AP) — Chris Sale overcame a shaky first inning to combine with two relievers on a five-hitter and Adam Dunn homered to lead Chicago over Tampa Bay.

Desmond Jennings walked leading off the game and

scored on Evan Longoria's single, but Sale (2-2) settled down and won for the first time since opening day. He allowed two runs and four hits in seven innings, struck out seven and worked around four walks. Sale has 31 strikeouts in five appearances against the Rays. He is 11-3 with a 2.26 ERA at home in 17 starts dating to the beginning of the 2012 season.

Matt Lindstrom worked a scoreless eighth, then Addison Reed pitched the ninth for his seventh save in seven chances for Chicago.

ROYALS 8, TIGERS 3, 10 INNINGS

DETROIT (AP) — Alex Gordon's grand slam highlighted a five-run 10th inning for the Kansas City, which rallied against Detroit's bullpen after Justin Verlander left with a thumb injury.

George Kottaras put the Royals ahead 4-3 with a bases-loaded walk off Phil Coke (0-3).

Darin Downs came on for Detroit after that, but Gordon broke the game open one out later with his homer over the center-field wall.

Verlander is day-to-day with what the team said was cracked skin on his throwing thumb.

The right-hander allowed two runs — one earned — in seven innings and left with a 3-2 lead.

Bruce Rondon gave up the tying run in the eighth in his major league debut.

Tim Collins (1-0) got the win.

ORIOLES 10, ATHLETICS 2

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Nate McLouth reached base four times and scored twice, Nick Markakis drove in two runs, and the Orioles opened their longest road trip of the season by routing the Athletics.

Chris Davis homered and had two RBIs, Adam Jones added three hits and Jason Hammel (3-1) pitched six strong innings to help the Orioles win for just the fourth time in their last 20 games at the Coliseum. □

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Late bounces push Rangers back into playoffs

The Associated Press

RALEIGH, North Carolina (AP) —

Rangers captain Ryan Callahan scored 2:55 into overtime, and New York rallied to clinch a third straight Eastern Conference playoff berth by beating the Carolina Hurricanes 4-3 on Thursday night.

Brad Richards tied it for the Rangers with 2:57 remaining in regulation after New York blew an early 2-0 lead and fell behind already-eliminated Carolina.

Derek Stepan and Derick Brassard staked the Rangers to the lead in the first period, and Henrik Lundqvist stopped 18 shots for New York, which jumped over the rival Islanders and into seventh place in the East with one game left.

Jiri Tlustý had two goals and Tuomo Ruutu also scored for Carolina, which played without injured forward Alexander Semin. Dan Ellis finished with 34 saves for Carolina.

SENATORS 2, CAPITALS 1, OT

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sergei Gonchar scored 47 seconds into overtime, Erik Karlsson set up Ottawa's first goal in his sooner-than-anticipated return from a torn Achilles tendon, and the Senators clinched a playoff berth by beating Washington.

Craig Anderson made 19 saves. The only shot that got past him was Alex Ovechkin's NHL-leading 32nd goal, which tied the game 8½ minutes into the third period.

But ex-Capitals defenseman Gonchar put the winner past Michal Neuvirth, who made 39 saves.

Jakob Silfverberg deflected in Karlsson's shot 12:35 into the second period against the Southeast Division champion Capitals, who had nothing at stake. The overtime wins by the Senators and New York Rangers eliminated the Winnipeg Jets from the playoff chase.

The Senators, who have two games remaining, moved up to sixth in the East. If they remain there, Ottawa would face the Capitals, who have won 10 of 12 overall — with the only losses against the Senators.

FLYERS 2, ISLANDERS 1

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Oliver Lauridsen and Danny Briere scored to lead Philadelphia over the New York Islanders, who dropped to eighth place in the Eastern Conference.

Lauridsen scored his second career NHL goal on a slap shot high above the circle late in the third period to lift the Flyers to a win in their home finale. They will miss the playoffs for the first time since 2007.

John Tavares scored for the Islanders, who are headed to the playoffs for the first time in six seasons. They dropped to eighth place after failing to earn a point for the first time in 12 games.

CANADIENS 4, JETS 2

WINNIPEG, Manitoba (AP) —

The Winnipeg Jets saw their playoff hopes end on the scoreboard before they were beaten by Montreal.

The Jets were ahead 2-1 as they started the third but already knew whatever they did wouldn't be enough. Both the New York Rangers and Ottawa Senators won to clinch the final two playoff spots in the Eastern Conference.

David Desharnais, Rene Bourque, Brendan Gallagher and Max Pacioretty scored as the Canadiens broke out of a slump in which they had lost five of six.

James Wright and Blake Wheeler scored for the Jets, who finished the season 24-21-3.

RED WINGS 5, PREDATORS 2

DETROIT (AP) — Pavel Datsyuk had a goal and two assists, and Detroit moved a step closer to its 22nd



New York Rangers' Ryan Callahan, right, and Anton Stralman (6) celebrate Callahan's game-winning goal against the Carolina Hurricanes in overtime of an NHL hockey game in Raleigh, N.C., Thursday, April 25, 2013.

Associated Press

straight playoff appearance by beating Nashville. The Red Wings, who moved into seventh place in the Western Conference, need one more point to secure their spot in the postseason. They own the longest current playoff streak in

North American professional sports.

Detroit has one regular-season game remaining. Johan Franzen had a goal and an assist, and Valtteri Filppula, Patrick Eaves and Justin Abdelkader also scored for Detroit. □

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Thunder's Westbrook out, needs knee surgery

JEFF LATZKE

AP Sports Writer

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Oklahoma City Thunder point guard Russell Westbrook will have surgery to repair a torn meniscus in his right knee and be out indefinitely.

General manager Sam Presti said Friday that the Thunder had not yet scheduled Westbrook's surgery and would not have an accurate timeline for his return until after the procedure was done.

The three-time All-Star was hurt in Game 2 of the Thunder's playoff series against Houston on Wednesday night. Rookie Patrick Beverley lunged into him trying for a steal in the second quarter and his hip collided with Westbrook's knee.

"Our team is disappointed for Russell. We know what kind of competitor he is, how much he wants to be out there, but it's a medical decision," Presti said in a news conference. "Our team as a whole, we've got a resilient group of guys, a lot of character within that locker room and a group that enjoys playing together and has been through some adversities over the last several years that

they've been together. We'd expect them to adjust, come together and have different guys step in and play well collectively."

Westbrook, who is in his fifth season in the NBA, has never previously missed a game. He had the league's longest active streak of consecutive games played, with 394 straight regular-season games. He also has played in all 45 of Oklahoma City's playoff games. Game 3 of the playoff series is Saturday night in Houston. Westbrook averaged 24 points and seven assists in the first two games, both won by Oklahoma City. Westbrook remained in the game Wednesday night, but was clearly hobbling after the injury. He sat out the Thunder's practice on Thursday, and coach Scott Brooks claimed he would be "fine tomorrow." The team found out Friday



In this photo taken Wednesday, April 24, 2013, Oklahoma City Thunder guard Russell Westbrook stumbles after injuring his right knee in the second quarter of Game 2 of a first-round NBA basketball playoff series against the Houston Rockets in Oklahoma City.

Associated Press

morning that wasn't the case.

"I think we all know Russell. He obviously wants to play. But at the end of the day, this was a medical decision," Presti said.

"Once we were able to gather all of the necessary information and everything was accumulated, it was an easy decision for our medical team." □

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UNIQUE SPORTS ARUBA

Allen shines as Heat beats Bucks, leads 3-0

The Associated Press

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Ray Allen scored 23 points and broke the NBA career play-off record for 3-pointers, and the Miami Heat used another of their patented runs to beat the Milwaukee Bucks 104-91 on Thursday night for a 3-0 lead in their first-round series.

The Heat can complete the sweep in Game 4 on Sunday at the Bradley Center. No team has ever overcome a 3-0 deficit to win a series in the NBA playoffs. Allen's five 3-pointers against the Bucks gave him 322 for his career, two more than Reggie Miller. LeBron James added 22 points for the Heat, and Chris Bosh had 16 points and 14 rebounds. Dwyane Wade scored only four points, but had 11 assists.

Larry Sanders and Brandon Jennings led the Bucks with 16 points each.

BULLS 79, NETS 76

CHICAGO (AP) — Carlos Boozer had 22 points and 16 rebounds, Luol Deng added 21 points and 10 boards, and Chicago held off Brooklyn in Game 3 of their first-round playoff series.

The Bulls had no field goals and two foul shots in the final 5:46 of the game, but still managed to beat the Nets for the second time in the postseason. They will try to grab a 3-1 lead when the series resumes in a quick turnaround Saturday afternoon.

Brooklyn shot 35 percent for the second straight game. Brook Lopez had 22 points and nine rebounds, and Deron Williams finished



Miami Heat guard Ray Allen celebrates a 3-point shot during the second half of Game 2 in their first-round NBA basketball playoff series against the Milwaukee Bucks, Tuesday, April 23, 2013 in Miami.

Associated Press

with 18 points on 5-for-14 shooting.

GRIZZLIES 94, CLIPPERS 82
MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — Zach Randolph had 27 points and 11 rebounds, and Memphis beat Los Angeles to pull to 2-1 in the series.

Memphis snapped the Clippers' nine-game winning streak by outrebounding and dominating on second-chance points, the same things Los Angeles did so well on its home court to start the series.

Marc Gasol accepted his trophy as the NBA's Defensive Player of the Year before tipoff, then scored 16 points

Blake Griffin scored 16 points for the Clippers. Chris Paul had eight points on 4-of-11 shooting and added six assists. □

Continued from Page 17

NL Capsules

NATIONALS 8, REDS 1

WASHINGTON (AP) — Gio Gonzalez allowed just one hit in eight innings, and Denard Span and Danny Espinosa drove in three runs each to lead Washington to the victory over Cincinnati.

Gonzalez, who allowed 12 runs in his previous nine innings, retired the first 11 Reds batters before Joey Votto homered with two outs in the fourth. He struck out seven and walked two. By the time Votto homered, Gonzalez (2-1) had a 6-0 lead.

Washington had lost nine of 12 and their previous six home games. Cincinnati lost for the sixth time in its last seven road games.

DODGERS 3, METS 2

NEW YORK (AP) — Andre Ethier hit a tiebreaking single in the ninth inning and Los Angeles, boosted by a

sharp outing from Hyun-Jin Ryu, defeated New York. After Ryu and Mets starter Jeremy Hefner each threw seven impressive innings and left with the score 1-all, the Dodgers won a game decided by the bullpens. Nick Punto opened the ninth with a double off Scott Rice (1-1) and moved to third on a grounder to the right side by Adrian Gonzalez. After an intentional walk to Matt Kemp, Mets manager Terry Collins visited the left-handed Rice on the mound.

The left-handed Ethier put the Dodgers ahead with his hit, and Juan Uribe drove in another run with an infield single for a 3-1 lead.

PIRATES 6, PHILLIES 4

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Gaby Sanchez homered and drove in three runs, and Garrett Jones hit a go-ahead, two-run double to

lead Pittsburgh to a comeback victory over struggling Philadelphia.

Justin Wilson (2-0) pitched two hitless innings in relief of James McDonald, and the Pirates won their third straight and 10th in 13 games. Taking the four-game series gave Pittsburgh its first series win in Philadelphia since April 4-6, 2003, at now demolished Veterans Stadium.

Ryan Howard went 2 for 4 with a double and two RBIs and Domonic Brown had a pair of doubles with an RBI for the Phillies, who have lost three straight and eight of 11.

DIAMONDBACKS 3, ROCKIES 2

PHOENIX (AP) — Paul Goldschmidt's two-run home run in the fourth inning powered the Diamondbacks to a win over the Rockies. Goldschmidt's fifth homer



Chicago Cubs' Luis Valbuena, upper right, celebrates with teammates after he hit the tie-breaking solo home run during the ninth inning of a baseball game against the Miami Marlins, Thursday, April 25, 2013, in Miami.

Associated Press

of the year followed a single by Martin Prado and snapped a 1-1 tie. Goldschmidt's towering drive down the left field hit near the top of the foul pole, and increased his team-leading RBI total to 18. Trevor Cahill (1-3) earned his first win of the season, giving up an unearned run

in five innings.

Jorge Del La Rosa (2-2) allowed three runs in six innings for Colorado.

In other NL games it was Arizona 3, Colorado 2; Pittsburgh 6, Philadelphia 4; L.A. Dodgers 3, N.Y. Mets 2; Washington 8, Cincinnati 1; and Chicago Cubs 4, Miami 3. □

Cancer physicians on the attack on high drug costs

ANDREW POLLACK

© 2013 New York Times

With the cost of some life-saving cancer drugs exceeding \$100,000 a year, more than 100 influential cancer specialists from

around the world have taken the unusual step of banding together in hopes of persuading some leading pharmaceutical companies to bring prices down.

Prices for cancer drugs have been part of the debate over health care costs for several years and recently led to a public protest by doctors at a major cancer center in New

York. But the decision by so many specialists, from more than 15 countries on five continents, to join the effort is a sign that doctors, who are on the front lines of caring for patients, are taking a more active role in resisting high prices. In this case, some of the specialists include researchers with close ties to the pharmaceutical industry.

The doctors and researchers, who specialize in the potentially deadly blood cancer chronic myeloid leukemia, contend in a commentary published online by a medical journal Thursday that the prices of drugs used to treat that disease are astronomical, unsustainable and perhaps even immoral.

They suggested that charging a high price for a medicine needed to keep someone alive is profiteering, akin to jacking up the prices of essential goods after a natural disaster.

"Advocating for lower drug prices is a necessity to save the lives of

patients" who cannot afford the medicines, they wrote in *Blood*, the journal of the American Society of Hematology. While noting that the drugs used to treat many other cancers are just as costly, the doctors focused on what they know best – the medicines for chronic myeloid leukemia, like Gleevec, which is enormously profitable for Novartis. Among the critics is Dr. Brian Druker, who was the main academic developer of Gleevec and had to prod Novartis to bring it to market. Novartis argues that few patients pay the full cost of the drug and that prices reflect the high cost of research and the value of a drug to patients. Gleevec entered the market in 2001 at a price of about \$30,000 a year in the United States, the doctors wrote. Since then, the price has tripled, they said, even as Gleevec has faced competition from five newer drugs. And those drugs are even more expensive. The prices have been the subject of intense debate elsewhere as well. India's Supreme Court ruled recently that the drug could not be patented, clearing the way for the use of generic alternatives that are far less expensive.

Some of the doctors who signed the commentary said they were inspired by physicians at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York, who last fall refused to use a new colon cancer drug, Zaltrap, because it was twice as expensive as another drug without being better. After those doctors publicized their objections in an op-ed article in *The New York Times*, Sanofi, which markets Zaltrap, effectively cut the price in half. What impact the new commentary will have remains to be seen. The authors, however, call merely for a dialogue on pricing to begin.

The protest's leader is Dr. Hagop M. Kantarjian, chairman of the leukemia department at the prestigious MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston.



Dr. Brian Druker, the main academic developer of Gleevec, a medicine for chronic myeloid leukemia, talks to a patient in Portland, Ore. More than 100 cancer specialists, including Druker, have banded together in 2013 to persuade pharmaceutical companies to bring prices down, suggesting that high prices for essential medicine amounts to profiteering.

(Brian Lee/The New York Times)

New joint effort seeks drugs for autism

KATIE THOMAS

© 2013 New York Times

With the diagnosis of autism on the rise and drug companies facing major setbacks in developing successful treatments, the University of California, Los Angeles, will lead a \$9 million effort financed by the National Institute of Mental Health to find effective drugs, officials said Wednesday.

Under a contract with the institute, UCLA will form a network of researchers at other academic centers that will try to quickly identify promising new and older drug compounds, and conduct early tests to see if they merit additional investment.

The program, part of the "Fast Fail" initiative at the institute, aims to determine whether a drug works in weeks, rather than the years it traditionally takes to evaluate a new drug.

"The whole idea is just getting much better in these early phases at identifying drugs that are going to be efficacious and safe, and thereby greatly speeding the development of effective new therapies and reducing the overall cost," said Dr. James McCracken, who is leading the effort at UCLA as director of the division of child and adolescent psychiatry at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior. The number of diagnosed cases of autism, Asperger's syndrome and related disorders in children has been growing in recent years, largely because of increased awareness. A recent report by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Health Resources and Services Administration concluded that 1 in 50 children aged 6 to 17 had been found to have autism or a related

disorder, a 72 percent increase since 2007.

Although more cases are being diagnosed, no drugs are approved to treat the core symptoms of the disorders, which are characterized by delays in developing effective communication and social skills.

McCracken said developing effective treatments has been difficult because the underlying causes were poorly understood until the last few years, and some prominent efforts had failed.

The program would identify four to eight compounds and run them through small trials in humans, testing how the drugs are absorbed and how they affect brain wave patterns that scientists say they believe are linked to autism, McCracken said.

"It's taken a really long time to kind of crack open and begin to understand



Dr. James McCracken, director of the division of child and adolescent psychiatry at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior, in an undated handout photo. (UCLA via The New York Times)

part of the disorder of brain biology that underpins autism," McCracken said. "This is, to me, the most exciting time because we understand so much more than we did even five or 10 years ago."

Smartphones overtake 'dumb' phones worldwide

PETER SVENSSON

AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Research firm IDC said more smartphones than "dumb" phones are being made this year, a milestone in a shift that's putting computing power and Internet access in millions of hands worldwide.

Manufacturers shipped 216 million smartphones worldwide in the first three months of this year, compared with 189 million regular cellphones, according to a study IDC released late Thursday. IDC said smartphones made up 51.6 percent of the 419 million mobile phones shipped.

In the U.S., smartphones overtook regular cellphones in 2011. IDC analyst Ramon Llamas said Friday that the shift to a global majority of smartphones is now being driven by

consumers in developing countries such as China, India and Indonesia.

Another firm, ABI Research, found that smartphones made up 49 percent of shipments in the first quarter. Samsung Electronics Co., the world's largest phone maker, doesn't provide a breakdown of its phone shipments, and analysts vary in their estimates. Even going by ABI's numbers, it's clear that smartphones will solidly overtake the market this year. The shift from phones primarily designed for calls, and perhaps texting, to ones with advanced operating systems and touch screens has roiled the cellphone industry. Finland's Nokia Corp. was for many years the world's largest maker of cellphones, but it has failed to translate that into success in smartphones.

It's now the second-largest maker of phones overall, behind Samsung Electronics Co., but it falls far down the list of smartphone makers.

Cellphone pioneer Motorola Mobility, a U.S. company now owned by Google, has stumbled through the transition as well, while Apple Inc. has become the world's third-largest maker of cellphones, less than six years after launching the first iPhone. Samsung and Apple are the top makers of smartphones. LG Electronics Inc. of South Korea; HTC Corp. of Taiwan; and ZTE Corp. and Huawei Technologies Ltd. of China jostle for the No. 3 position. □



Models show Samsung Electronics Co.'s latest smartphones Galaxy S4 during its unveiling ceremony in Seoul, South Korea, Thursday, April 25, 2013. Associated Press

Toyota, Microsoft beef up Gazoo.com Net service

YURI KAGEYAMA

AP Business Writer

TOKYO (AP) — Toyota is teaming up with Microsoft for an Internet service that links cars, home computers and smartphones so users can find nearby tourist spots, connect on social networks and learn about new models.

The beefed up version of Toyota's Internet site Gazoo.com starts May 30 in Japan, and will be based on "cloud" computing from Microsoft Corp. called Windows Azure. Overseas plans are still undecided. According to the U.S. software giant, it is the first time the technology, which also uses Sharepoint software, is being used for a company site.

Gazoo.com users tripled over the last five years to 1.65 million. Toyota Motor Corp. said Friday it wants to raise that to 2 million over the next year.

All the world's major automakers are working on similar technology to bring autos up-to-date with the Internet age, from finding

restaurants to helping ensure safe driving.

But a major motive for Toyota is appealing to younger Japanese, who are rapidly losing interest in buying cars and are spending their money on smartphones and video games. The trend is so widespread there is a coined phrase, "kuruma banare," or "departure from cars."

Among the Net content in the works are video games, shopping-site links, virtual events and a special social network to chat about cars, according to Toyota. A smartphone application will guide drivers with an electronic voice to 30,000 destinations from 250 routes.

The site will also offer information on more than 3,000 new and used models, including interviews with engineers.

Switching to Microsoft's cloud computing will cut costs for operating the services, although Toyota plans to invest more money in new content for Gazoo.com. □

Deals site LivingSocial says it's been hacked



WASHINGTON (AP) — Online deals service LivingSocial said Friday that its website was hacked, and the personal data of more than 50 million customers may have been affected. The company said customers' names, email addresses, dates of birth and encrypted passwords may have been compromised by the cyberattack. But it said the database that stores customer credit-card information was not accessed or affected. The Washington, D.C.-based company said it was working with law enforcement officials to investigate the attack and was contacting customers in nearly all of the countries where it operates.

A banner on its website

Friday evening read: "important notice for customers. If you haven't already updated your LivingSocial password, please update it now."

In an email to customers, company CEO Tim O'Shaughnessy requested that users reset their passwords, and he reminded them to disregard any emails claiming to be from LivingSocial that seek personal or account information.

"The security of your information is our priority," he wrote.

"We always strive to ensure the security of our customer information, and we are redoubling efforts to prevent any issues in the future."

The company did not im-

mediately explain how the hacking occurred, except to describe it as a cyberattack that "resulted in unauthorized access to some customer data from our servers."

It's the latest bad news for LivingSocial, which offers deals on everything from restaurants to spa sessions. Last November, the company announced it was cutting 400 jobs worldwide, or about 9 percent of its workforce, as the deals marked continued to face challenges.

In recent years, online deals have gone from fad to a much-copied business model that's easy to set up but difficult to sustain. LivingSocial is one of the largest of the online deals companies. □

Wall Street stalls on tepid US economic growth

STEVE ROTHWELL
AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK (AP)—The stock market stalled Friday after the U.S. economy didn't grow as much as hoped and earnings from a handful of big companies failed to rev up investors. The economy grew at a 2.5 percent annual rate in the first three months of the year, the government said. That was below the 3.1 percent forecast by economists. The shortfall reinforced the perception that the economy is grinding, rather than charging, ahead. Investors have also been troubled by reports in the last month of weaker hiring, slower manufacturing and a drop in factory orders. Many economists see growth slowing to an annual rate of around 2 percent a year for the rest of the year.

U.S. government bonds, where investors seek safety, rose after the report. "There are some concerns as we head into the summer," said JJ Kinahan, chief derivatives strategist for TD Ameritrade. "In the last three weeks, we've seen numbers that weren't exactly what you'd love to see." Corporate earnings this week have also contained worrisome signs. Many companies missed revenue forecasts from financial analysts, even as they reported higher quarterly profits. For example, Goodyear Tire slipped 3.3 percent to \$12.51 Friday after revenue fell short of analysts' estimates, hurt by lower global tire sales. Of the companies that have reported earnings so far, 70 percent have exceeded Wall Street's

expectations, compared with a 10-year average of 62 percent, according to S&P Capital IQ. But 43 per-

cently results. The S&P 500 index dropped 2.92 points, or 0.2 percent, to close at 1,582.24.



Jack Yonally rings out a customer at Lodge's store in Albany, N.Y. The Commerce Department issues its first estimate of how fast the U.S. economy grew in the January-March quarter on Friday, April 26, 2013.
(AP Photo/David Duprey)

cent have missed revenue estimates. Just over half of the companies in the S&P 500 have reported quar-

The Dow rose 11.75 points, or 0.1 percent, to 14,712.55. The index got a big lift from Chevron. Profit for the U.S.

oil company beat expectations of financial analysts in the first quarter, pushing shares up 1.3 percent to \$120.04.

Three stocks fell for every two that rose on the New York Stock Exchange. Both indexes were up for the week and remain slightly below their all-time highs reached April 11. The Dow index rose 1.1 percent this week while the S&P gained 1.7 percent. The market has been bolstered by the Federal Reserve's easy money policy. The disappointing growth figure for the economy will ensure that the Fed sticks with its stimulus policy, providing support for stocks, said Peter Cardillo, chief market economist at Rockwell Global Capital.

"The economic data that we've been getting points to no early exit for the Fed's stimulus," Cardillo said.

The Nasdaq composite fell 10.72 points to 3,279.26, a decline of 0.3 percent. The index is 2.3 percent higher this week.

The tech-heavy index has lagged the Dow and the S&P 500 this year, but it led the way higher this week, boosted by Microsoft. The software giant, which makes up 5.3 percent of the Nasdaq, recorded its biggest weekly gain since January of last year — up 6.8 percent. It reported earnings April 19 that beat Wall Street expectations. The company also began an aggressive push into the computer tablet market. Apple, the largest stock in the Nasdaq, also had a good week. The stock rose 6.8 percent to \$417.20, its best weekly gain since November, despite posting a decline in quarterly profit Tuesday. Apple accounts for 7.6 percent of the Nasdaq composite.

Among other big names investors focused on:

Amazon.com fell 7 percent to \$254.81 after the company warned of a possible loss in the current quarter. The online retailer also reported lower income for the first quarter as it continued to spend heavily on rights to digital content. □

Burger King 1Q earnings soar, revenue shrinks

CANDICE CHOI
TOM MURPHY
AP Business Writers

Burger King's first-quarter earnings more than doubled even though revenue fell, as the fast-food chain trimmed several restaurant-related expenses. The Miami-based company had warned earlier this month that sales at established restaurants were expected to fall during the quarter, and they wound up declining 1.4 percent. That includes a 3 percent drop in the United States and Canada. Burger King said competition and a strong first quarter last year hurt U.S. and Canadian sales comparisons to this year's quarter. But it said sales from those countries rallied in March due in part to promotions like the \$1.29 Whopper Jr. The company has been adjusting its strategy to focus on more menu deals like that. McDonald's has been particularly aggressive in touting its Dollar Menu to boost traffic at a time when the restaurant industry is barely growing. Wendy's also revamped its value menu recently. Overall, Burger King World-

wide Inc. said Friday its net income rose to \$35.8 million, or 10 cents per share, in the quarter that ended March 31. That's up from \$14.3 million, or 4 cents per share, in the previous year's quarter when it was still private.

food costs and payroll expenses, fell nearly 70 percent in the quarter to \$108.1 million.

Burger King has been undergoing a revamp since it was purchased and taken private in 2010 by 3G Capital, a private invest-

ment firm run by Brazilian billionaires. The company has been selling more restaurants to franchisees, a move that lowers overhead costs. Instead of booking sales from those restaurants, that means Burger King would collect franchise fees instead. In the first quarter, the company's restaurant

revenues tumbled 69 percent to \$121.1 million, but its franchise and property revenues rose 19 percent to \$206.6 million. The company sold 33 company-owned restaurants in the U.S. and Canada to franchisees during the quarter for \$9.3 million.

Burger King said about 97 percent of its restaurants are owned and operated by independent franchisees. The company's selling, general and administrative expenses also fell about 30 percent to \$66.7 million in the quarter. 3G Capital also has slashed costs, signed international expansion deals and changed the U.S. menu to appeal to a wider audience. The moves came ahead of the company's return to public trading on the New York Stock Exchange last June.

Burger King says its efforts to revamp the brand remain on track. But CEO Bernardo Hees, a 3G partner, is moving on later this year to head Heinz, another 3G investment. Chief Financial Officer Daniel Schwartz, also a 3G partner, will succeed Lees as CEO at Burger King. □



A car stops at the drive-thru at a Burger King restaurant near downtown Los Angeles. Burger King reported their quarterly earnings on Friday, April 26, 2013.
(AP Photo/Nick Ut)

The company previously said adjusted earnings, which don't count certain one-time expenses, totaled 17 cents per share in the most recent quarter. Revenue fell about 42 percent to \$327.7 million. Analysts expected \$305.8 million, according to FactSet. Total restaurant expenses, which include things like

ment firm run by Brazilian billionaires. The company has been selling more restaurants to franchisees, a move that lowers overhead costs. Instead of booking sales from those restaurants, that means Burger King would collect franchise fees instead. In the first quarter, the company's restaurant

STREET BRIEFS

Google buys startup Wavii

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Google has bought Wavii, a Seattle startup behind an application that condenses online content for time-pressed Web surfers. Both companies confirmed the deal Friday. As with most of its acquisitions, Google isn't disclosing how much it paid for Wavii. Wavii's technology grasps the context of language so it can summarize the main points in news stories and other content. Although Wavii's app is shutting down, CEO Adrian Aoun says the startup's technology will be used in other Google products. Google Inc., which is based in Mountain View, California, declined to discuss its plans for Wavii. The natural-language technology could be useful for Google's Knowledge Graph, an 11-month-old feature that summarizes information in boxes that appear alongside some of Google's search results. □

ADM lifts bid for GrainCorp

SIDNEY (AP) — Archer Daniels Midland Co. is closer to making a huge expansion into Australia with a possible deal for a grain handler there called GrainCorp. Decatur, Illinois-based ADM has offered 12.20 Australian dollars (\$12.54) to buy GrainCorp. That values GrainCorp at about \$3.1 billion, including the portion of GrainCorp that ADM already owns. ADM's two previous offers for GrainCorp Ltd. were rejected for being too low. But ADM says GrainCorp's board has agreed to recommend the offer to shareholders for approval. ADM said it is examining GrainCorp's books and will announce a final decision about whether to move forward with the deal by end of its first-quarter earnings conference call, which has been delayed until Wednesday. □

Chevron profit down 4.5 pct. on lower oil prices

JONATHAN FAHEY
AP Energy Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Chevron Corp.'s net income fell 4.5 percent in the first quarter as oil prices fell and refinery output fell. Chevron, the second largest U.S. oil company, has seen better profit margins than the other energy majors in recent years because a big part of its production mix is oil, which has been fetching high prices. Rivals, like Exxon Mobil, produce more natural gas in the U.S., where gas prices have been low. But crude prices fell across the globe in the first quarter of this year, compared with the same period last year, reducing Chevron's revenue and profit.

Chevron Corp., based in San Ramon, California, re-

ported Friday that net income fell to \$6.18 billion, or \$3.18 per share, on revenue of \$56.82 billion. Last year the company earned

\$3.09 per share. Shares rose 40 cents to \$118.91 in early trading. Chevron's production of oil and gas rose slightly in the

sale price for a barrel of oil slipped to \$94 from \$102 last year in the U.S., and to \$102 from \$110 abroad. Natural gas prices edged up around the world, but not enough to offset the decline in oil prices.

Performance at Chevron's refining operations slipped because of maintenance and upgrades at refineries in El Segundo, California and Pascagoula, Mississippi and continued repairs at its Richmond California refinery in the wake of an August fire.

Refinery output fell 38 percent to 576,000 barrels per day.

Brian Youngberg, an analyst at Edward Jones, said Chevron's disappointing U.S. refining results were the only "hiccup" in an otherwise solid quarter. □



Los Angeles Police officers fill up at a Chevron gas station downtown Los Angeles. Chevron Corp. reported quarterly financial results before the market opened on Friday, April 26, 2013. (AP Photo/Damian Dovarganes)

\$6.47 billion, or \$3.27 per share, on revenue of \$60.71 billion.

The profit exceeded analysts' average forecast of

quarter, to 2.65 million barrels per day of oil and gas from 2.63 million barrels per day.

But Chevron's average

Goodyear swings to 1Q profit, beats estimate

THOMAS J. SHEERAN
Associated Press

CLEVELAND (AP) — Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. reported a profit for the first quarter on Friday as lower raw material costs helped offset the effect of a decline in global tire sales. Its adjusted earnings beat Wall Street estimates, and its shares rose more than 2 percent in morning trading.

"Our first quarter earnings demonstrate that our strategic focus on improving productivity and selling innovative products in targeted market segments where our brands add value is working, especially in North America, where our business continues to outperform expectations," said Richard J. Kramer, chairman and CEO.

The Akron, Ohio-based tire maker said its net income was \$26 million, or 10 cents per share, in the three months ended March 31. It lost \$11 million, or 5 cents per share, in the same quarter a year ago.

After charges, Goodyear earned 45 cents per share. Analysts surveyed by FactSet expected 30 cents per share. Revenue fell to \$4.8 billion from \$5.5 billion a

year ago. Analysts expected \$5.09 billion. Sales dropped 13 percent in Goodyear's core North America market, but also saw a \$163 million reduction in raw material costs. Sales dropped 17 percent

in Europe, 1.5 percent in Latin America and 1.7 percent in Asia. Asia and Latin America had increased numbers of tires sold and higher oper-



New Goodyear tires sit in a service bay at Conrad's Total Car Care center in North Olmsted, Ohio. Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. reported a profit for the first quarter on Friday as lower raw material costs helped offset the effect of a decline in global tire sales. (AP Photo/Mark Duncan)

ating income.

Despite an 8 percent decline in the number of tires sold globally, a push to sell high-end products helped Goodyear post record first-quarter operating income in North America and the

Asia-Pacific region.

In its outlook, Goodyear said it expects the number of tires sold this year to be unchanged from 2012, reflecting weakness in Europe amid an uncertain economy.

To revive its European business, Goodyear has announced plans to leave the farm tire business and close a manufacturing plant in France, a move that has sparked a legal fight on two continents and street protests by French workers.

Kramer said the company remains confident in its full-year outlook. The company expects global segment operating income of \$1.4 billion to \$1.5 billion in 2013. Kramer noted that would be up more than 12 percent from 2012 and a record.

Goodyear shares rose 32 cents, or 2.5 percent, to \$13.26 in morning trading. They are down 9.5 percent from \$14.65 in January. They traded as low as \$9.24 last June. □

Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	6		8	7		2	5	
5					9			4
2								
	4							3
3				2				6
9							1	
								5
6			4					9
	5	3		6	2		8	

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

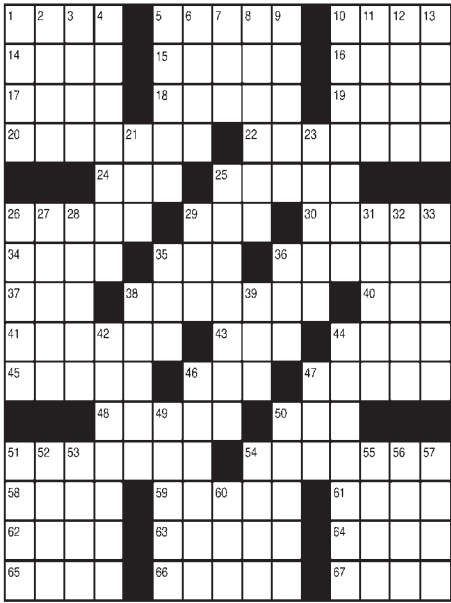
6	2	9	5	7	3	8	4	1
4	3	8	2	1	6	7	9	5
1	5	7	8	4	9	6	2	3
7	4	6	9	2	5	1	3	8
8	9	3	1	6	7	4	5	2
5	1	2	3	8	4	9	7	6
3	8	4	6	9	2	5	1	7
2	7	1	4	5	8	3	6	9
9	6	5	7	3	1	2	8	4

ACROSS

- More or __; approximately
- Rub enough to make sore
- Slender
- Way out
- Ethiopia's __ Selassie
- Apple's center
- Plane passenger's waiting area
- Mistake
- Inquires
- Sniffed
- Having no goal
- Cut off
- Nearly vertical & hard to climb
- __ hat; panama
- "That __ then and this is now"
- Gets closer to
- Bosc or Bartlett
- Layer of turf
- Bit of ammo
- Discontinue
- Pasta
- __ Beta Kappa
- Sounds
- Actor Majors
- Blacken
- Scout group
- Wager
- Snatches
- Marathons
- Tiny veggie
- Biceps and abs
- Meat market employee
- __ of Capri
- Apple drink
- Casino game
- Israel's Golda
- Perfect
- Consequently
- Catch sight of
- Gives temporarily
- Nincompoop
- Difficult
- Broadcast
- Doesn't sink
- Spooky
- Surgeon's tool
- Misplace
- Annoys
- Disorderly state
- Sad
- Lists of dishes
- Cowboys' seats
- Used up
- Male singing voice
- Standard car feature
- Court
- 1st letter in the Greek alphabet
- Physical therapy, for short
- Mixes in a bowl
- Distress signal
- Stinging insect
- Neighbor of India
- Allow
- Witchcraft

DOWN

- Table supports
- Test
- Location
- Outstanding
- Nestling's noise
- Table supports
- Test
- Location
- Outstanding
- Nestling's noise



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

Friday's Puzzle Solved

C	R	A	T	E	T	A	B	S	S	A	T	E
H	O	T	E	L	A	B	U	T	K	E	E	N
A	D	O	R	E	K	E	N	O	I	S	N	T
D	E	P	R	A	V	E	D	O	P	P	O	S
O	N	E	S	C	L	A	P	P	E	R		
P	A	T	R	O	N	P	A	S	T	E		
A	R	E	R	U	B	E	S	E	R	E	C	T
S	C	A	R	E	I	D	E	R	S	A	L	E
S	H	R	E	D	P	A	Y	E	E	S	U	N
C	A	M	E	L	S	A	L	T	E	D		
C	A	P	E	R	E	R	O					
R	E	U	S	E	D	R	E	T	H	I	N	K
A	R	T	S	A	P	E	X	A	T	O	N	E
C	I	T	E	L	I	N	E	R	E	N	E	W
K	E	Y	S		S	E	T	S		T	R	E

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4/27/13

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 44 __ up; began laughing | 52 Takes advantage of |
| 46 Next to | 53 Woman's undergarment |
| 47 Understand | 54 Rosary piece |
| 49 __ B. DeMille | 55 Long sandwich |
| 50 Knits in a certain way | 56 School subj. |
| 51 Silent performer | 57 Cheer |
| | 60 TV room, often |

US tax cheats pony up \$5.5B in amnesty program

S. OHLEMACHER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — America's tax collector has recouped more than \$5.5 billion under a series of programs that offered reduced penalties and no jail time to people who voluntarily disclosed assets they were hiding overseas, government investigators said Friday.

are simply starting to report their accounts without taking part in the disclosure programs, the report said. "IRS has detected some taxpayers with previously undisclosed offshore accounts attempting to circumvent paying the taxes, interest and penalties that would otherwise be owed," the report said. "But based on GAO reviews of IRS

Acting IRS Commissioner Steven Miller said catching overseas tax dodgers is a top priority of the agency. In a written response to the report, he said the agency is working to improve the way it identifies people who are still trying get around the agency's disclosure programs. The IRS has run four voluntary disclosure programs since 2003. The last three — in 2009, 2011 and 2012 — have yielded almost all of the \$5.5 billion in back taxes, penalties and interest. The latest program is still open. The agency stepped up its efforts in 2009, when Swiss banking giant UBS AG agreed to pay a \$780 million fine and turn over details on thousands of accounts suspected of holding undeclared assets from American customers. □



Worried the Internal Revenue Service might target you for an audit? You probably should worry if you own a small business in one of the wealthy suburbs of Los Angeles. Or if you're a small business owner in one of dozens of communities near San Francisco, Houston, Atlanta or Washington. The IRS uses a secret computer program to identify potential tax cheats for audits, and researchers with access to the data say they have found large clusters of likely cheaters in these five metropolitan areas.
(AP Photo/Susan Walsh)

In all, more than 39,000 tax cheats have come clean under the programs. But there's more. Government investigators suspect that thousands of other taxpayers have quietly started reporting foreign accounts without paying any penalties or interest. The number of people reporting foreign accounts to the Internal Revenue Service nearly doubled from 2007 to 2010, to 516,000 accounts, a report by the Government Accountability Office said. The sharp increase suggests that some people

data, IRS may be missing attempts by other taxpayers attempting to do so." Some taxpayers try to avoid penalties through a technique the IRS calls "quiet disclosure," in which they file amended tax returns that report offshore income from prior years. Others simply declare existing offshore accounts for the first time with their current year's tax return, the report said. "If successful, these techniques result in lost revenue for the Treasury and undermine the offshore programs' fairness and effectiveness," the report said.

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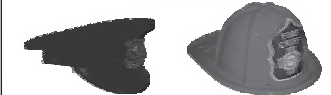
DOCTOR ON DUTY



Oranjestad
Apr. 27 Dr. G. Croes
Apr. 28 Dr. Algera

EMERGENCIA

911



POLIS	100
POLIS	581-1100
ORANJESTAD	582-4000
NOORD	587-0009
STA. CRUZ	585-4710
SAVANETA	584-7000
SAN NICOLAS	584-5000
FIRE DEPT.	115
FIRE DEPT.	582-1108
POLIS TIPLINE	11141
HOSPITAL	527-4000
AMBULANCE	582-1234
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Foundation Amor

pa Prohimo

Tel: 583-3345 /586-6976

Women in Difficulties

Foundation

Tel: 583-5400

Bloodbank Aruba

Tel: 587-0002

Panel suggests structures to boost Great Lakes

JOHN FLESHER

AP Environmental Writer

TRAVERSE CITY, Michigan

(AP) — A U.S.-Canadian panel urged both nations Friday to consider installing water retention structures to boost levels on Lake Huron and Lake Michigan, which fell to their lowest point on record in January and have lagged well below their historical average since the late 1990s.

The International Joint Commission, which advises the two federal governments about shared waterways, called for a study of placing inflatable gates or other devices in the St. Clair River, the outlet at the southern end of Lake Huron. Officials have acknowledged that dredging, gravel mining and other human activities eroded the river bottom in the last century, accelerating the volume that flowed out of Lake Huron toward Lake Erie. Owners of Huron shoreline property, particularly in Canada's Georgian Bay, have demanded action for years to offset the losses, although federal scientists say rising evaporation and declining rain and snow are the biggest reasons for the lake's drop-off. In a letter to the governments, the commission proposed investigating ways to raise Huron and Michigan by 5 to 10 inches (13 to 26 centimeters). Although considered two separate lakes, they are connected by a 5-mile-wide (8-kilometer-wide) strait and are the same elevation above sea level.

"Although future water levels are uncertain, we cannot ignore the damage" already done from record lows, said Joe Comuzzo,



In this Nov. 16, 2012 photo, Jim Simons, who runs a rod and reel repair business in Onekama, Mich., strolls on a sand bar alongside the Portage Lake channel that leads to Lake Michigan at Onekama, Mich.

Associated Press

chairman of the Canadian delegation to the commission.

Although not endorsing specific measures, the panel suggested focusing on adjustable devices that could be activated during low-water periods when outflow from Lake Huron needs to be reduced and deactivated when there's danger that water could get too high.

The commission has six members, three from both countries, although one of the Canadian positions is vacant. Four of them signed the report. Lana Pollack, head of the U.S. delegation, declined to endorse it because she said it might give "false hopes" that artificial structures could solve the low-water problem.

While much of the document is praiseworthy, it understates the role climate change has played and

says too little about the need for governments to help people adapt, she said.

"The public really needs to understand what we're doing to our Great Lakes by pumping greenhouse gases into the atmosphere and creating climate change," Pollack said in a telephone interview.

Great Lakes levels fluctuate seasonally and have risen and fallen significantly over the decades, but now are in a prolonged low-water period. Huron and Michigan have suffered the biggest drop-offs. When they set a record in January, they were 29 inches (74 centimeters) below their long-term average and

had declined 17 inches (43 centimeters) within a year. They have risen slightly since then, helped by heavy snowfall and rain. But the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers says it would take a number of unusually wet years to restore the lakes to normal.

Studies have shown that Huron and Michigan fell by 10 to 16 inches (25 to 40 centimeters) because of dredging and other activities as late as the 1960s. Congress authorized steps to slow the flow from Lake Huron and the corps produced options in 1972, including miniature dams and sills that resemble speed bumps along the river bottom. But nothing was done because by then a three-decade-long rising trend was underway. Mary Muter, co-director of a group called Restore Our Water International, said the commission's support for boosting levels was "excellent news." In addition to placing artificial devices in the river, the governments should spread rock rubble along the bottom to prevent further erosion, she said. □

Nets, harpoons could be used to haul in space junk

FRANK JORDANS

Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — Nets, harpoons and suicide robots could become weapons of choice to hunt down the space junk threatening crucial communications satellites currently in orbit round Earth, scientists said Thursday.

Even lasers that act like "Star Trek" tractor beams were among the proposals put forward to protect some \$100 billion worth of satellites from man-made cosmic garbage.

"Whatever we do is going to be an expensive solution," Heiner Klinkrad, a space debris expert at the European Space Agency, said at the end of an international conference on

space debris in Darmstadt, Germany. "But one has to compare the costs of what we are investing to solve the problem as compared to losing the infrastructure that we have in orbit." Experts estimate that about 27,000 objects measuring 10 centimeters (4 inches) or more are flying through orbit at 80 times the speed of a passenger jet, Klinkrad said. Each one of those could destroy a satellite. And even vastly smaller debris of just 1 millimeter — of which there are about 160 million — can render sensitive space instruments useless.

Thomas Schildknecht, an astronomer at the University of Bern, Switzerland, said it would be technically fea-

sible to send a satellite into space to capture objects with a net and harpoon.

But more elaborate proposals could also work, Schildknecht said. These include a satellite firing electrically charged atoms — or ions — at an object to gradually slow it down and thereby drag it back to Earth.

Ground-based lasers could be used in the same way, though only for very small objects, he said.

For larger objects like ESA's 18,000-pound (8,100-kilogram) Envisat, which broke down last year, a dedicated robot could be built which would be sent on a suicide mission to bring the satellite down safely. Such missions could cost up to \$200 million each. □

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In this Jan. 10, 2007 file photo, George Jones is shown in Nashville, Tenn.

Associated Press

George Jones, country superstar, has died at 81

CHRIS TALBOTT
HILLEL ITALIE
AP Entertainment Writers
NASHVILLE, Tennessee (AP)

— George Jones, the peerless, hard-living country singer who recorded dozens of hits about good times and regrets and peaked with the heartbreaking classic “He Stopped Loving Her Today,” has died. He was 81. Jones died Friday at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, according to his publicist Kirt Webster. He had been hospitalized with fever and irregular blood pressure, forcing him to postpone two shows.

With one of the most golden voices of any genre, a clenched, precise, profoundly expressive baritone, Jones had No. 1 songs in five separate decades, 1950s to 1990s. He was idolized not just by fellow country artists, but by Frank Sinatra, Pete Townshend, Elvis Costello, James Taylor and countless others. “If we all could sound like we wanted to, we’d all sound like George Jones,” Waylon Jennings once sang.

Word of his death spread like white lightning Friday morning as his peers paid tribute.

“The greatest voice to ever grace country music will never die,” Garth Brooks said in an email to The Associated Press. “Jones has a place in every heart that ever loved any kind of mu-

sic.”

Ronnie Dunn added: “The greatest country blues singer to ever live.”

In Jones’ case, that’s not hyperbole. In a career that lasted more than 50 years, “Possum” evolved from young honky-tonker to elder statesman as he recorded more than 150 albums and became the champion and symbol of traditional country music, a well-lined link to his hero, Hank Williams.

Jones survived long battles with alcoholism and drug addiction, brawls, accidents and close encounters with death, including bypass surgery and a tour bus crash that he only avoided by deciding at the last moment to take a plane. His failure to appear for concerts left him with the nickname “No Show Jones,” and he later recorded a song by that name and often opened his shows by singing it. His wild life was revealed in song and in his handsome, troubled face, with its dark, deep-set eyes and dimpled chin.

In song, he was rowdy and regretful, tender and tragic. His hits included the sentimental “Who’s Gonna Fill Their Shoes,” the foot-tapping “The Race is On,” the foot-stomping “I Don’t Need Your Rockin’ Chair,” the melancholy “She Thinks I Still Care,” the rockin’ “White Lightning,” and the barfly lament “Still Doing Time.” □

Accidental outlaw Willie Nelson celebrates 80th



This Nov. 20, 2012 file photo shows country music legend Willie Nelson on NBC’s “Today” show in New York. As the enduring American icon’s 80th birthday has approached, he’s been honored with lifetime achievement awards, serenaded at special performances and saluted by musicians from every genre of music.

CHRIS TALBOTT
AP Music Writer
NASHVILLE, Tennessee (AP)

— America loves its outlaws, and few are as admired and lionized as Willie Nelson. As the enduring American icon’s 80th birthday has approached, he’s been honored with lifetime achievement awards, serenaded at special performances and saluted by musicians from every genre of music. And Nelson has taken it all in with a bemused smile.

“It’s a nice thing to do for someone on their birthday and I appreciate it,” Nelson said in a recent interview aboard his bus. “Usually I like to forget my birthdays as much as possible.”

The hubbub is as much about celebrating Nelson as it has been celebrating with Nelson. The singer whose birthday is Monday or Tuesday — Nelson says April 29, the state of Texas claims April 30 — occupies a unique space in America’s cultural memory. A walking bag of contradictions, he wears his hair

long in braids and has a penchant for pot smoking, yet remains arguably conservative country music’s greatest songwriter. He’s accepted by left and right, black and white and is instantly recognizable to a majority of Americans.

Like few other music stars, his image has grown to represent more than the notes he’s played or the lyrics he’s written. Like Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash or Frank Sinatra, he’s become a figurehead for a uniquely American way of thinking. He represents the outlaw and the maverick. If Elvis was all about the pelvis and the sexual revolution, Nelson is American independence: the raised middle finger tossed with a twinkle in the eye.

“America is a bizarre place and Willie is our captain,” said Jamey Johnson, Nelson’s good friend and sometimes opener. “Willie in every way represents all the greatest things about America to me.”

Nelson didn’t set out to be a folk hero, as Charles

Kelley of Lady Antebellum calls him. He spends something like 200 days on the road still, a pace that challenges men a quarter his age.

In a series of interviews over the last year, Nelson explained he just came to Nashville wanting someone to buy his songs. That young man never imagined he’d be on the road for more than 50 years. His first real songwriting job paid \$50 a week. He played — and sometimes slept — at Tootsie’s on Lower Broadway in Nashville, just a few miles — but really a million miles — away from Music Row.

Nelson thinks that young man wouldn’t know what to make of the spectacle he’s become.

“He’d probably wonder what’s that old man doing out there,” Nelson said with a chuckle. “He’s got a house. He’s not homeless. Why don’t he go home?”

The truth is Nelson is home as he sits at the pleasantly cluttered kitchen table of his bus. With its portrait of an American Indian on the side and its reputation for mellow encounters, the bus is as much a part of Nelson’s mythos as his braids and battered old guitar. An invitation to join Nelson on the bus is coveted. “I’ve never smoked weed ever in my entire life,” Lady A’s Hillary Scott joked. “But if I got invited on the bus I might have to make a concession just because of purely what it is, what it represents.” For Nelson, it’s a refuge, office, songwriting room and parlor where he hosts friends and band members for morning coffee. “I’ve lived in this house longer than I’ve lived in any of the others, all combined,” Nelson said glancing around. “I feel at home here. It moves around. I have a mobile home. That’s about the size of it, and I enjoy it.”

Nelson has pursued this nomadic lifestyle for more than four decades, almost unchanged. □

2 beloved TV soaps revived online starting Monday

FRAZIER MOORE
AP Television Writer

STAMFORD, Conn. (AP) — Taped to a wall at the entrance to the Connecticut Film Center in Stamford is this greeting: "Welcome (back) to Pine Valley."

Pine Valley, of course, is the mythical setting of "All My Children," a daytime drama that ran on ABC for nearly 41 years until it was snuffed in 2011.

But now, in one of those plot twists so common to soap operas but so rare in the real world, "All My Children" has been raised from the dead.

Was its cancellation just a bad dream, from which the show is now awakening? In any case, "AMC" will be back starting Monday with much of its august cast intact (including David Canary, Julia Barr, Jill Larson, Debbi Morgan and Cady McClain, and perhaps even Susan Lucci eventually returning to the fold), along with shiny new actors to add more pizzazz. But this time, "AMC" will not be on a broadcast network. It will be online.

So will "One Life to Live," another venerable soap cut down by ABC after 44 seasons. It, too, will spring back to life on Monday. (Welcome back to Llanview, everybody!) Returning fan favorites include Erika Slezak, Robert S. Woods, Robin Strasser and Hillary B. Smith, each of whom has logged decades on the show.

Each serial will unveil four daily half-hours per week, plus a recap/behind-the-



This March 18, 2013 publicity photo released by The Online Network shows Corbin Bleu as Jeffrey King, left, and Erika Slezak as Victoria Lord, on the set of "One Life to Live" in Stamford, Conn.

Associated Press



This undated publicity image released by The Online Network shows Cady McClain as Dixie Cooney on the set of "All My Children," in Stamford, Conn.

Associated Press

scenes episode on Fridays, with 42 weeks of original programming promised for the first year.

They will be available for streaming on computers on the Hulu website. Subscribers to Hulu Plus can watch on a variety of other devices.

And the episodes will be available for purchase on iTunes.

This resurrection could reverse the doomsday plot that has plagued soaps for decades as their viewership withered and their numbers sank (there are only four left on the broadcast networks; there were a dozen in 1991).

And it is somehow fitting that TV's oldest genre, carried over from radio,

should now be making the transition to a 21st-century online platform complete with Agnes Nixon, who created both shows, as a digital pioneer. It's a potentially restorative move that could prove the TV medium failed soaps, not the other way around.

Reflecting a new age of viewing patterns and business strategy, "AMC" and "OLTL" will be the first offerings of The Online Network, an ad-supported outlet for first-run entertainment delivered online.

"What better way to start than with two shows that have been watched by fanatical fans for as much as 40 years?" says Rich Frank, a partner of Prospect Park studios, which owns The Online Network.

He notes that even as ABC pronounced death for these two soaps, "AMC" was averaging 3.2 million viewers a day and "OLTL" had 3.8 million viewers. He sets the threshold of success for his new venture at "a very conservative percentage" of that broadcast audience.

"Being online is going to draw people in," predicts Jennifer Pepperman, "OLTL" executive producer. "You can click on it and watch it any time you like." Meanwhile, the drama will adapt to its new medium.

"We don't want to totally reinvent the wheel, but we want to make the wheel turn better and turn quicker," Pepperman says.

"AMC" executive producer Ginger Smith echoes Pepperman from her office a few steps away at the just-moved-in-looking, bustling headquarters the two shows share.

"We want to keep the core," says Smith, who has risen on "AMC" from production assistant in 1988. "I still want escapism and romance, but we're going to have stories that are sometimes a little darker and edgier than we did on ABC."

As she is speaking, "AMC" is wrapping its first weeks in front of the cameras. Then "OLTL" takes over the 27,000-square-foot soundstage to start production. In this back-and-forth arrangement, each series will tape 210 episodes in the year ahead.

"But these are not webisodes," Frank says. "We are shooting television as everyone knows it. This is traditional TV storytelling distributed a different way — and it's a superior way." Frank is a veteran entertainment exec who headed The Walt Disney Studios and served as president of the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. With his Prospect Park partner Jeff Kwatinetz, he produces TV series including USA network's "Royal Pains" and FX's "Wilfred."

But even as their company was doing business with traditional networks, Frank envisioned an online network delivering content to devices not limited to TV, and sidestepping traditional cable delivery.

Then ABC canceled those two soaps.

"They fell into our lap," says Frank, though minimizing the lengthy process of licensing them.

"These two shows come with 40 years of advertiser relationships and a die-hard fan base," says Kwatinetz from across the partners desk he and Frank occupy in their shared corner office. □

Hill says she signed with Sony to pay taxes

NEW YORK (AP) — Lauryn Hill says she has signed with Sony to pay her overdue taxes.

Hill pleaded guilty last year to not paying federal taxes on \$1.8 million earned from 2005 to 2007. The 37-year-old posted on her Tumblr blog late Thursday that she "signed a new record deal, and that I did this to pay taxes."

The total Hill owes is in dispute, but it is around \$1 million. Her next sentencing date in New Jersey is May 6.

Hill also says she's working on new music. She hasn't released much music since her 1998 solo debut, "The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill." It has sold more than 10 million albums and won five Grammy Awards. □



Singer Lauryn Hill walks from federal court in Newark, N.J., Monday, April 22, 2013, after a judge postponed her tax evasion sentencing and scolded the eight-time Grammy winner for reneging on a promise to make restitution.

Associated Press

The 1 Percent's Solution



PAUL KRUGMAN
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Economic debates rarely end with a TKO. But the great policy debate of recent years between Keynesians, who advocate sustaining and, indeed, increasing government spending in a depression, and austrians, who demand immediate spending cuts, comes close – at least in the world of ideas. At this point, the austrian position has imploded; not only have its predictions about the real world failed completely, but the academic research invoked to support that position has turned out to be riddled with errors, omissions and dubious statistics.

Yet two big questions remain. First, how did austerity doctrine become so influential in the first place? Second, will policy change at all now that crucial austrian claims have become fodder for late-night comics?

On the first question: the dominance of austrians in influential circles should disturb anyone who likes to believe that policy is based on, or even strongly influenced by, actual evidence. After all, the two main studies providing the alleged intellectual justification for austerity – Alberto Alesina and Silvia Ardagna on “expansionary austerity” and Carmen Reinhart and Kenneth Rogoff on the dangerous debt “threshold” at 90 percent of GDP – faced withering criticism almost as soon as they came out.

And the studies did not hold up under scrutiny. By late 2010, the International Monetary Fund had reworked Alesina-Ardagna with better data and reversed their findings, while many economists raised fundamental questions about Reinhart-Rogoff long before we knew about the famous Excel error. Meanwhile, real-world events – stagnation in Ireland, the original poster child for austerity, falling interest rates in the United States, which was supposed to be facing an imminent fiscal crisis – quickly made nonsense of austrian predictions.

Yet austerity maintained and even strengthened its grip on elite opinion. Why?

Part of the answer surely lies in the widespread desire to see economics as a morality play, to make it a tale of excess and its consequences. We lived beyond our means, the story goes, and now we’re paying the inevitable price. Economists can explain ad nauseam that this is wrong, that the reason

we have mass unemployment isn’t that we spent too much in the past but that we’re spending too little now, and that this problem can and should be solved. No matter; many people have a visceral sense that we sinned and must seek redemption through suffering – and neither economic argument nor the observation that the people now suffering aren’t at all the same people who sinned during the bubble years makes much of a dent.

But it’s not just a matter of emotion versus logic. You can’t understand the influence of austerity doctrine without talking about class and inequality. What, after all, do people want from economic policy? The answer, it turns out, is that it depends on which people you ask – a point documented in a recent research paper by the political scientists Benjamin Page, Larry Bartels and Jason Seawright. The paper compares the policy preferences of ordinary Americans with those of the very wealthy, and the results are eye-opening.

Thus, the average American is somewhat worried about budget deficits, which is no surprise given the constant barrage of deficit scare stories in the news media, but the wealthy, by a large majority, regard deficits as the most important problem we face. And how should the budget deficit be brought down? The wealthy favor cutting federal spending on health care and Social Security – that is, “entitlements” – while the public at large actually wants to see spending on those programs rise.

You get the idea: The austerity agenda looks a lot like a simple expression of upper-class preferences, wrapped in a facade of academic rigor. What the top 1 percent wants becomes what economic science says we must do.

Does a continuing depression actually serve the interests of the wealthy? That’s doubtful, since a booming economy is generally good for almost everyone. What is true, however, is that the years since we turned to austerity have been dismal for workers but not at all bad for the wealthy, who have benefited from surging profits and stock prices even as long-term unemployment festers. The 1 percent may not actually want a weak economy, but they’re doing well enough to indulge their prejudices.

And this makes one wonder how much difference the intellectual collapse of the austrian position will actually make. To the extent that we have policy of the 1 percent, by the 1 percent, for the 1 percent, won’t we just see new justifications for the same old policies? I hope not; I’d like to believe that ideas and evidence matter, at least a bit. Otherwise, what am I doing with my life? But I guess we’ll see just how much cynicism is justified. □



Canada's Oil Minister, Unmuzzled



JOE NOCERA
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The last time your friendly scribe sought an interview with Joe Oliver, Canada’s minister of natural resources, he was turned down flat. It was February last year. Oliver had made a series of impolitic remarks about the efforts to block the Keystone XL oil pipeline, which, if it’s ever built, would import oil from the tar sands of Alberta to refineries along the Gulf Coast – and which Canadians believe that the United States would be nuts to reject. “I referred to the fact that some U.S. environmental groups were sending money to Canada to advance their anti-pipeline, anti-hydrocarbon agenda, and I just felt that that effort was working against Canada’s national interest,” is how he puts it now. But shortly after Oliver began speaking out, Stephen Harper, the Canadian prime minister, told his Cabinet to refrain from making any remarks that might be construed as commenting on the upcoming presidential election. Hence, no interviews with American columnists.

Which is not to say that Oliver – and Harper – didn’t have other means to send a message. After President Barack Obama, looking to shore up his base, temporarily delayed the Keystone pipeline – an action that stunned Canada – the Canadian leaders jetted to China for a

series of meetings with Chinese officials. Thanks to the Alberta sands, Canada is sitting on the third largest oil reserves in the world after Venezuela and Saudi Arabia.

“That oil will be sold,” says Oliver, “if not to you, then to somebody else. That is not meant as a threat. It is just a fact.”

As you can tell by now, Oliver is talking again. With the election over; with a presidential decision on Keystone imminent; with the pipeline rerouted to mollify the concerns of Nebraskans; with the State Department having issued a recent report saying there are no environmental impediments – with all of that as the backdrop, Oliver came to New York and Washington earlier this week to preach Canada’s energy message.

In part because of enormous new natural gas finds, made possible thanks to hydraulic fracturing (aka fracking), and in part because of the oil sands, energy independence is finally within reach for North America. As recently as five years ago, this goal would have been “inconceivable,” Oliver said Monday, at a Bloomberg energy conference. Canada, he added, “has the resources to meet all of America’s future needs for imported oil.”

When I spoke to him before his speech, Oliver pointed out that Venezuela, which currently supplies the United States around 1 million barrels a day, has more than once threatened to cut us off. “That would never happen with Canada,” he said. “We honor our contractual obligations.” As a longtime supporter of Keystone, I could only nod my head in agreement.

Perhaps a quick refresher on the benefits of Keystone are in order. First, notwithstanding the development of alternative energy sources, the world is going to continue to need oil; Oliver, quoting the International Energy Agency, says that global energy demand is expected to grow by at least 35 percent

over the next 20 years. The notion, pushed by environmentalists, that blocking the oil sands will spur green energy is delusion.

Second, energy independence is a long-sought national goal. We would no longer need OPEC, a cartel of countries with values, in many cases, antithetical to ours. Third, that oil is coming here anyway – by rail and boat, where spills are common, and via pipelines that are older, and hence less safe, than Keystone would be.

And one other thing: Oil mined from the sands is simply not as environmentally disastrous as opponents like to claim. Extraction technology has improved to the point where there is almost no difference, in terms of greenhouse gas emissions, between sands oil and old-fashioned oil drilling. The government has insisted that the companies extracting the oil return the land to its original state when the mining is completed. Indeed, for all the hysteria over the environmental consequences of the oil sands, there is oil in California that is actually dirtier than the oil from the sands. Even now, nothing gets under Oliver’s skin more than the accusation that Canada’s oil sands will be ruinous to the environment. “That statement that the Keystone pipeline would mean ‘game over’ for the environment is absurd,” he said. He was referring, of course, to the line first used by James Hansen, the recently retired leader of NASA’s Goddard Institute for Space Studies, who is one of the most prominent critics of the oil sands and the Keystone pipeline.

I couldn’t help myself: I asked Oliver what he thought of Hansen’s willingness to chain himself to the White House fence to protest the pipeline.

He couldn’t help himself either. Given the dirty oil in California, he replied, “he should be chaining himself to a mannequin in Rodeo Drive.” □

New technology inspires a rethinking of light

FELICITY BARRINGER

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After the joy of the birth itself, parenthood sometimes brings the unwelcome news that a newborn has jaundice and must wear goggles and be placed under special lights. Imagine how different this experience might be if there were no goggles, just a warm blanket covering the tiny body, a healing frequency of blue light emanating from its folds.

That comforting scene, already a reality in some hospitals, is evidence of the fundamental rethinking of lighting now under way in research labs, executive offices and investor conferences. Digital revolutionaries have Edison's 130-year-old industry, and its \$100 billion in worldwide revenue, in their sights. Color, control and function are all being reassessed, and new players have emerged like a wave of Silicon Valley startups.

"This is the move from the last industrial-age analog technology to a digital technology," said Fred Maxik, the chief technology officer with the Lighting Science Group Corp., one of many newer players in the field.

The efforts start with energy efficiency and cost savings but go far beyond replacing inefficient incandescent bulbs. Light's potential to heal, soothe, invigorate or safeguard people is being exploited to introduce products like the blanket, versions of which are offered by General Electric and in development at Philips, the Dutch electronics giant.

Innovations on the horizon range from smart lamp-posts that can sense gas hazards to lights harnessed for office productivity or even to cure jet lag. Digital lighting based on light-emitting diodes — LEDs — offers the opportunity to flit beams delicately across stages like the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge — creating a light sculpture more elegant than the garish marketers' light shows

on display in Times Square, Piccadilly Circus and the Shibuya district in Tokyo.

"Up till now we only thought — do I have enough light to see, to clean my room, to cut a diamond?" said Ed Crawford, a senior vice president of Philips Lighting Americas. "Now it impacts what I do, how I feel, in emotional ways."

In the United States, lighting consumes more than 20 percent of electric power generated each year; the Energy Department says LEDs can cut consumption

disputed federal legislation to phase out the old incandescents, often in favor of compact fluorescent bulbs. In pursuing their goals, advocates played down problems like the harshness of fluorescent light, and difficulties with dimming the bulbs and dealing with the toxic mercury they contain. Now, some lighting scientists say, both consumers and investors are leery of buying into something they suspect might be substandard.

Another powerful force for

In 2008, that number was close to zero.

One reason adoption will speed up, Crawford believes, is that in recent years, consumers have been asked to compromise on quality to get energy savings. With the latest generation of LEDs, he said, "the consumer gets the energy savings without compromise."

The cost barrier is getting lower. Until recently, it typically cost \$30 to buy an LED that could replace a 60-watt glass incandes-

cent bulb among them — are moving into what had been a market dominated by large, established companies like General Electric, Philips and Osram Sylvania.

In both the newer and older camps, researchers are trying to reimagine uses for light and ways of controlling it. What kinds of controls? Adjusting the intensity of a light between dim and bright, of course, has been done for decades — but not often in outdoor settings. Other options, indoors and out, include changing the frequency and color of the light, or having it pulsate — think of the multicolor displays atop the Empire State Building.

This color-changing capability has applications far beyond the theatrical. Consider sea turtle hatchlings leaving nests along the Florida coast that are led astray by bright white lights, luring them inland when they should head seaward. Lighting Science is one of several companies that offer a solution; its \$29.99 amber "turtle lights" are on sale in Satellite Beach, Fla., near the most active turtle nesting area. For the workplace, Osram Sylvania's researchers are looking to control light to improve office productivity. As Lori Brock, director of research and innovation at the company's technology lab in Massachusetts, said: "It optimizes the illumination for the task you're doing. If you sat at your desk to use the computer, maybe the overhead light would dim, increasing the contrast so you could see better. Other lights could go to an energy-saving hue." Ideally, productivity increases while energy costs decrease.

As for health applications, the Lighting Research Center of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute has focused its research on the physiological and psychological impacts of light. This might lead to light fixtures in hotel rooms and elsewhere that enhance sleep or restore the circadian rhythms of jet-lagged travelers. □



Mark Oostdyk, right, and Ran Zhou, both engineers at Lighting Science Group Corporation, which makes advanced lighting products, test road lights in Satellite Beach, Fla., April 24, 2013. Researchers at companies like Lighting Science are trying to reimagine uses for light indoor and outdoor, and ways of controlling it in ways to heal, soothe, invigorate or protect people.

(Edward Linsmier/The New York Times)

by up to 80 percent. LEDs — also called solid-state lighting — are already a \$12.5 billion business worldwide, according to analysts at the research firm Strategies Unlimited in Mountain View, Calif. A 2012 McKinsey report estimates LEDs will be an \$84 billion business by 2020.

But there is an obstacle or two facing the LED revolutionaries. One is existing modes of lighting: Edison's screw-based socket, the office's fluorescent ceiling tubes, and metal halide or sodium lights in parking lots are not going away anytime soon.

Another hurdle is public wariness after the environmental exhortations of the 2000s, which led to much-

continuity is the psychological legacy of light as we know it — from sun to candle to bulb. Isn't the cartoon shorthand for a new idea a glowing bulb over the thinker's head?

So some companies are selling the new digital lighting in forms that will fit into the prerevolutionary world, with its sockets and streetlamps — including familiar bulb shapes.

Philips is producing a bulb called Hue that fits into the old sockets and not only dims and brightens, but also changes colors on command. Crawford said that in his lamps division, 25 percent of sales income now comes from LEDs; he expects it to increase to 50 percent in two years.

cent bulb bought for less than a dollar. Now Cree, a semiconductor manufacturer, has 40-watt and 60-watt LED equivalents for \$10 and \$14.

James Highgate, an expert on the new technology who runs an annual LED industry conference, sees a transition period ahead "for the next three to five years, until the 8 billion sockets in the U.S. get filled" with LEDs. "Some people will never change," he added. "They'll be in the alleys buying 100-watt incandescents."

Many of the elements of the nascent revolution seem in place. A host of relatively new entrants — Lighting Science, Eye Lighting, Ohm Lighting and Ter-